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Town Papers.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

RELATING TO

TOWNS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE;

WITH AN APPENDIX

EMBRACING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS OF 1778-
1779; AND OF 1781-1783; AND THE STATE
CONSTITUTION OF 1784.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

v. 9, pt. 2

VOLUME IX.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

NATHANIEL BOUTON, D. D.,

Corresponding Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

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with the Greatest Grief and sorrow, that our families cannot accompany us to the house of God Under these distressing circumstances we have applyed ourselves, both to the town of Nottingham and Litchfield for Relief, but they have done nothing for our help, and your Petitioners have for some Considerable time maintained and Supported the publick worship of God among us at our own cost and charge, and at the same time paid our proportion toward building a meeting house, both in Nottingham and Litchfield and towards supporting the Ministry in both towns, and those of your petitioners that live in Nottingham have don our part also towards settling a minister in Nottingham. Your Petitioners Therefore do humbly pray that we may be erected into a township there being a sufficient tract of land in the North Westerly part of Nottingham, and Southeasterly part of Litchfield to make a compact Town without any prejudice to the towns of Nottingham or Litchfield only coming half way from Litchfield Line at the North westerly End of Nottingham To Nottingham meeting house and going half way from Nottingham line at the Southerly end of Litchfield, on both sides of y^e river, to Litchfield meeting-house this would make a good township and would not be any Disadvantage Either to the Town of Nottingham or Litchfield And so we might all of us be accommodated for attending upon the public worship of God, But if your Hon^{rs} in your great Wisdom shall not think it for the best to Erect us into a township then our humble petition is that we may be made and invested with all the priviledges of a parish with the Bounds above mentioned or as much of the Lands within these Bounds as your Honour's shall think fit and that you would be pleased to send a committee upon our cost and charge to View the towns of Litchfield and Nottingham, and Report what they shall think proper to be done for us and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Nottingham.

John Tayler
Nathan Cross
William Cumings
Roger Chase
John Robinson
Eleazer Cumings
James Baret
Moses Baret
John Carhan?
John Marshal
Edward Spalding
John Marsh
Thomas Marsh
Benjamin Greely
Josiah Cumings

Litchfield.

Nathaniel Hills
Henry Hills
Ebenezer Spalding
Joseph Kidder
Joseph Kidder Jr
Ezekiel Hills
Joseph Polard
Henry Hills, Jr
Robard Melurn
Stephen Spalding
John Huston
Nath' Hills Jr
James Hills
Daniel Hills
Smith Hills
Joseph Hills
John Horkisson.

Petition relating to the support of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Cap^t General
and Comander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province
of New Hampshire in New England. December y^e 25th
1742.

The petition of some of the Inhabitants of the uper part of the District Called Nottingham and some of the Inhabitants of the Lower part of the District Called Litchfield Humbly sheweth, that whereas your Petitioners have made application to your Excellency and the honourable Court of said Province set forth by a petition in the year past to be erected into a township or parish agreeable to said petition, and it has not ben your Excellency and Honourable courts pleasure to make any Confirmation to your petitioners as yet and in as much as your Petitioners circumstances is very difficult upon the account of our being such a great distance from the publick worship of God in both places that it is almost impossible to attend the publick worship of God especially in the winter season and difficult times in the year that it is unaccountable to relate the difficulties and hardships that we our selves and families undergo in all seasons of the year. and your petitioners have for many years a grate part of the time maintained the gospel among ourselves upon our own cost and charge where we and our families May with conveniency attend upon God in his house, and under these distressing circumstances our humble petition is that your Excellency would be pleased to free all of us who has already made there application to your Excellency and the honorable Court from paying any more or further Rates and Town charges in Either of the said Towns Towards supporting y^e ministry for so long a term of time until your Excellency and the honorable court shall further Determine in Answering to s^d Petition^{rs} who have all redly made there application or for so long a terme of time as your Excellency in your Honors Clemency and goodness shall seem most meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Nathaniel Hill
Ebenezer Spaulding
John Marshall
Josiah Cumings
William Cumings

Eleazer Cumings
John Robinson
Edward Spaulding
Nathan Cross
Josiah Dutton

Petition relating to the settlement of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt Genral
and Comander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province
of New Hampshire in New England.

January y^e 24th 1742-43.

We the Subscribers of the Districts called Nottingham and Litchfield who are your Excellencies former Humble Petitioners Beg leave to acquaint your Excellency. That we are Remain united in our earnest Desires to be Erected into a parish or Township Seperate; but in as much as your Excellency Dont as yet see fitt to grant this our Petition we Rest your Excellencies Contented Humble Subjects as to that but many who knows the Difficulties we Labour under upon the account of going with our Families to the stated places of Publick Worship of God in the Towns we Respectively Belong to and also upon the account of the Difficulties and Disturbances that seems to be Dayly arising in maney churches consarning the points of Religion and your Petitioners are all unanimously agreed as to that great and important affair have advised us to proceed in calling and settling a Gospel minister with us upon this we chose a Committee to Take the advise of the Neighbouring Ministers who Informed said Committee that they look upon it that it might be for the Glory of God and that intrest of Religion to settle one that might be able to Take us by the hand and Lead us in the way wherein we should go but notwithstanding we have had this advise and we united in our Desires to proceed yet we thought it not consistent for us to proceed till we had your Excellencies advise fearing we should incurr your Excellencies Despleasure thereby which we would Take all Lawfull means to avoid. Therefore we your Humble Petitioners Do earnestly Desire that your Excellency would stoop so Low as to Consider our circumstances and advise us and if your Excellency will give us liberty to proceed or in any measure countenance us in our proceeding so far that wee should have Reason to think that we should not incur ? your Excellencys displeasure and your Excellency will still Lay us your Humble Petitioners under the greatest obligation, As in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Nathaniel Hills
Nathan Cross
James Hills
John Marshall

Roger Chase
Eleazer Cummings
John Robinson
Josiah Dutton

Petition relating to the payment of a minister.

To His Excellency Benning Wintworth Esq. Capt. General
& Governor in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty} Province of New
Hampshire.

Your Excellency May remember that part of the inhabitants of Nottingham & Litchfield so called Refer'd a petition to your Excellency & y^e rest of y^e Honorable Court in Humbly praying that we your humble petitioners with our respective Estates might be Erected into a distinct town or Parish that so we might have y^e Gospel preached among us with greater conveniency, & from y^e encouragement that we have had from time to time from your Excellency; and others of y^e honourable Court. that we should be freed from paying taxes to our respective towns & also in due time to be made a town or Parish that we have obligated ourselves to a minister one that has been with us almost three years. and is still with us. & we some time last winter gave him a unanimous invitation to settle with us in the ministry. but your Excellency was pleased to write to us and in your letter you signified that it might be proper to deferr the settlement of a minister with us till May last past & out of obedience we omitted what we have for a long time wish'd for, we understand that y^e honourable court is now rise: and we your Humble Petitioners tho't it not improper to write to your Excellency not only to acquaint you of our earnest desire to have a gospel minister settled with us, but also to know of your Excellency. whether we are obliged by the late act that was made by y^e honourable Court to empower Several Districts Laying by y^e province Line to raise money to defray town charges to pay taxes to our respective Towns, or whether your Excellency with y^e rest of y^e Honourable Court will Judge it sufficient for us to pay y^e minister that has been with us. we humbly pray your Excellency to think of us in our dejected circumstances—so we remain part of your Excellencies former humble petitioners

Nottingham & Litchfield. August 8th 1743.

Nathaniel Hills

Henry Hills

John Marshall

Josiah Cumings

Ebenezer Spaulding

James Hills

William Cumings

Nathan Cross

Edward Spalden

Roger Chase

Eleazer Cummings

Bradbury Morison

Petition for men and military stores.

Litchfield June 12th 1744.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of y^e town of Litchfield.
Apprehending our selves Exposed to Imminent danger both

from the french & Indian Enemies, & being in no Capacity to make a proper stand in case of an attack from them. Do constitute & appoint Mr Jonathan Powers as our delegate requesting him in the s^t Capacity with all Convenient speed to repair to Portsmouth & to represent our deplorable case to his Excellency our Captain General & y^e General Assembly & request of them such aid both with respect of men & military stores as to their great Wisdom may think meet & which may put us in a capacity to repell all attempts of s^e Enemies.

James Hills
John Huchason
Joseph Pollard
John Robinson
Robert Maloon
John Taylor
Joel Dix
Jonathan Cumings
Sam^l Moor
Robart Richardson
John Usher
Samuel Nahor
Johanis Karr
Jacob Hildreth
Phinehas Underwood
Nathan Kendall
Christopher Tempel
David Whitmore
John Stearns
John Harwell

Timothy Underwood
Amos Kindel
John McCluer
Henry Hills
Ezekiel Hills
Henry Hills, Jr
Steven Spaulding
Thomas Mash
Alexander Colwell
James Karr
Nathan Kendall jun.
John M Colestone
Benj. Blodget
Josiah Richardson
William Read
Thomas Parker
Robert Read
William Patterson
Peter Russell
Parich Richardson.

Petition of Nathan Kendall relating to boundary line.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Gen^l Governor & Commander in Chief in & Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council for said Province. August 22^d 1746.

The Humble Petition of Nathan Kendall in behalf of the People Inhabiting a place called Litchfield on the Easterly side of Merrimack River shews,

That the said Inhabitants desire to make a Grateful acknowledgment of the favour which your Goodness has Inclined you to grant them in giving them a Charter of Incorporation as a Town & Enfranchising them with the usual Liberties Immunities & Privileges of which they desire to preserve & Cultivate a just Estimation.

That notwithstanding the fatherly Care & Tender Regard shown them in this Particular the good design & Intention is Intirely defeated, for by some Mistake or Misrepresentation

the Boundaries given in the said charter are different from what the Intention was, as they Conceive, for part of that which was called Litchfield on the Easterly side of the said River is in fact taken into Nottingham & incorporated as parcel of that Town and what is left of Litchfield is much too small for a Town & cant possibly Subsist as such & there is no place to which it can be join'd nor from whence any thing can be taken to add to it.

That as these Charters have been lately made out it is likely they may not yet be Recorded, and as there is a mistake it is not Improbable that the Inhabitants of Nottingham may agree to Deliver up their Charter & take a new one Agreeable to the Bounds Originally designed Especially if they found it to be your Excellencys & your Honours Pleasure to have it so. Wherefore your Petitioner Most Humbly prays that the Premises may be taken under Consideration & such remedy Provided as is above suggested or such as to your Wisdom & goodness shall seem meet and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall in behalf of his Principals Ever pray &c.

NATHAN KENDALL.

In Council August 23^d 1746.

The within petition read & ordered that the select men of Nottingham West be ordered to Appear before y^e Gov^r & Coun^l on y^e 3^d Tuesday of September next to shew reasons if any they have why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted & that, in Order hereto they be served with a Copy of the within Petition & this Order.

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for a Parish on the East side of the river.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, March y^e 28th 1746.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the district of Litchfield Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are about forty families being a part of Dunstable old grant living on the North Easterly Corner of s^d Grant That the center of our town being about eleven miles from the Province Line we had not the least apprehension of our being affected by the fixing of Towns near said Line and that your petitioners have Paid above two thirds towards the support of the Gospel for many years, and that we are not only forty families upon the Easterly side of the River but that we have Land to accomodate a considerable Number more that the Inhabitants of Litchfield on the west side of the River dont exceed thirteen or fourteen familys who we are very willing should be disannexed from us In regard to the great Danger and Defficulty which we know

they are Exposed to In Crossing the River in order to attend the Publick worship of God Notwithstanding of all which Either by our having been Inadvertantly over look'd or forgot when Instructions were given to the Committee of the Honourable Assembly for settleing the Districts in these parts or by some other means unknown to us we understand that it is Intended that we be annexed to that District upon the west side of the River and that our Center and place of Publick worship be on the westerly side which would oblige Above forty famillys constantly to cross the River to our great and unspeakable danger and difficulty, In order to meet with about thirteen or fourteen famelys. May it Please your Excellency to take the Difficult case of your Petitioners under your wise consideration and so to fix things that we may not be obliged to Cross the River for although we have Lost a Number of famillys on the Westerly side of the River we have accommodations on the East side that is now onsettled that is Likely in a few years to Regain the Number Lost on the other side, so that Considering the Difficulty and Danger we must be at in case we were obliged to cross s^d River to attend publick worship we think that we can be much better accomodated to be Erected into a town on our side and much greater satisfaction to the inhabitants. Therefore your petitioners Desire to be Incorporated with the Injoyment of all the Land on the East side of s^d River in s^d District and to be Invested with the Privilidge and Immunities as other towns in s^d Province are, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray.

Patrick Taggart
 Parish Richardson
 Hugh Nahor
 John Butterfield
 Jacob Hildreth
 William Richardson
 Nathan Kendall
 Peter Rusel
 Robeart Darrah
 Alexander Parker
 Robeart M^cKeen
 Robert M^cKeen Jr
 Alexander Calwell
 Thomas Karr
 John M^cAllester

William Qesten
 John Quستن
 James Nahor
 John Taylor
 John Orr
 Amos Kendall
 Robo't Richardson
 John Huchason
 William Bonner
 James Nickols
 James Darrah
 James M^cNight
 Garet Rowan
 David Whittemore
 Daniel Kendall

Petition relating to the same, as above.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire. & May y^e 17th 1746.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the District of

Litchfield who are your Excellencies former Petitioners Humbly Sheweth That Whereas we have Requested to be Erected into a Town with all the Lands within the Bounds of s^d District on the East side of the River and whereas there is a small Peeke of land lying Above Brintons farne (so called) lying about two miles on the river from the North line of said farne to the upper Corner of s^d peeke and not Exceeding six families and not accomodations for many more, and the inhabitants in s^d peeke signifying their indefrency as to their being Incorporated with us, and may it Please your Excellency in as much as there is a Number of Inhabitants who are taken off on the other side of the River your Petitioners Desire that the uper End of Nottingham Taking from Litchfield Lower Line down to the mouth of Nashua River, may be annexed to us the Inhabitants in s^d part of Nottingham being well situated and about twelve or thirteen families and the farthest not Lying much more than a mile from Litchfield Line and have frequently attended publick worship with us formerly and with the addition of that part of s^d Nottingham in case s^d Peeke should be Disannexed from us we think we shall be well acomodated to make a Township and to maintain the Gospel among us and not to Discomode our Neighbouring Inhabitants. May it therefore Please your Excellency to take the Difficult cause of your Petitioners into your wise Consideration and fix things that we may be Incorporated & invested with town Powers and priviledges as other towns in s^d Province are.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

NATHAN KENDALL in behalf of s^d Petitioners.

Jacob Hildreth
Hugh Nahor
James Nahor
Alexander Park
Alexander Colwell
William Bonner
John Huchason
John Taylor
David Campbell
John M^o Allester
James Nickols
Robert M Keen

Robert M^o Keen, Jr
Robert Doreh
Amos Kendall
Daniel Kendall
Peter Russell
James M Night
Thomas Karr
Henry White
Garct Rowen
William Questen
John Questen
David Whittemor

Petition to be included in the west division of Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r &c. The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened Portsmouth y^e 9th of April 1754.

Wee The Subscribers Inhabitaunce of Litchfield in the Prov-

ince of New Hamps^r having been Informed that sundry of the Inhabitation of this Province on the westerly side of Merrimack River have remonstrated to this Hon^d Assembly the necessity of this Province being divided into Two countys and pray it may be done by such Dividing Line as shall be tho't fit and in asmuch as the Town of Litchfield is situated and very Comodious to joyn with the Western Division and are at a great Distance from Portsm^r not less than fifty miles the usual travelling roads, the Place where all the Courts are held, in case we should not be Included in the West division twill lay us under very great difficulties, and no advantage to any body, besides the necessary assistance in the charge of erecting the necessary Buildings of a County.

Wherefore we Humbly Pray, That your Excellency and Hon^d would please to grant that in stating the Dividing Line between the Countys Litchfield may be Included in the west Division and as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Thomas Parker
William Read
Alexander Calwell
William Bonner, Jr
David Kendall
William Bonner
William M Keen
William Karr
Benjamin Blodget
James Nahor
William M Questen
Thomas Kar
Nathan Kendall

Josiah Richardson
Peter Russell
David Whittemore
Paletiah Russell
James Underwood
John Parker
Robert Darrah
Charles M Clurge
Arthur Darrah
William Patterson
Andrew Cochran
John Cochran
John Butterfield

*Petition of Isaac Cummings to be taxed in Nottingham-
west.*

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Governour &c the Hon^d his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Ports New Hampshire, y^e 3^d day of December, 1754.

The petition of Isaac Cummings of Litchfield Humbly shews. That your Petitioner when Nottingham West was Incorporated by this Government As the town lines was then Run he was Included and Taxed to all the Public Taxes of that Town, & In Special to the Building and finishing a meeting house there.

That then and ever since he has attend the Publick ministry There and is better comoded than, he can be with any other town.

That about three or four years after Notting West was Incor-

porated, a Town adjoining was Incorporated by the name of Litchfield, & some Time Afterward On Remcasuring the Lines of Nottingham West and settleing them with Litchfield they left your Petitioner in Litchfield (his house and a small matter of his land) the rest of his Lands in Nottingham. Whereby your Petitioner is defeated in his Expectation & lost the Benefit of the Heavy charges he paid for building the meeting house to the necessary new Hyways as well as many other charges & Greatly Incomodod if he must attend the Publick Worship at Litchfield.

That when Nottingham meeting house was determined where to be sett they had regard to your Petitioner & considered him as one of that town & by which House he can be well accomodated.

Wherefore y^r Peti^r most Humbly prays That y^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} would be pleased to take the premises into Consideration and grant that he & that part of his Homestead that Lyes in Litchfield may be so far annexed to the town of Nottingham West as that he may be taxed there for all ministerial rates. & Excused from the same in Litchfield & to Building & Repairs of any meeting house in Litchfield & y^r Petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

In Council December 12th 1764.

read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House.

Theod^r Atkinson Secry.

December 12th 1754.

We the subscribers of the Township of Nottingham, Testifies to the truth of the with in petition as follows:

Ezekiel Chase
Thomas Colburn
Joseph Winn
James Hues
Stephen Clark

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec. 12th 1754, Upon
New Hamp^r } the reading the within Petition, Voted that the Petitioner
be heard on the within Petition on the third day of the
setting of the General Assembly next After the first day of March next
and that he serve the selectmen of Litchfield at his own cost with a
copy of this Petition and of the orders thereon to shew cause if Any
they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore
Clerk

In Council December 12th 1754.

Read & Concurred,

Theod^r Atkinson.

Petition for a grant of a Ferry.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, In Council.

The humble Petition of Lucy Read of Litchfield in the County of Hillsborough and Province aforesaid, Widow,

Sheweth, That your Petitioners late Husband Capt William Read was in his Life time Siezed and possess'd of a Considerable tract of land on the Eastward side of Merrimac River in Litchfield aforesaid and did (without any Grant from His Majesty) improve a Ferry about three miles and an half Above Col^o Lutwyches, called & known by the name of Reads Ferry, for about Twenty five years before his death, which happened about 4 years ago.

That the said William Read in his life time, and the said Lucy since his death have been at a Considerable Expence in Boats & attendance to Expedite the same Ferry, & make it commodious agreeable to Law.

Notwithstanding which premises your Petitioner is advised That the s^t Title under the said William is precarious and sho^d Any stranger obtain a Grant thereof it wo^d Embarrass and greatly hurt your petitioner who has also six children by said William all now under age to maintain.

She most humbly intreats your Excellency wise tender regard of the premises to Confirm unto her the aforesaid improved and accustomed Ferry by Grant from His Majesty.

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

LUCY READ

Litchfield 18th May 1772.

LONDONDERRY.

[This town was originally called Nutfield, and was granted to a company of Presbyterians of Scotch origin, who emigrated from Ireland. It was settled about the 11th of April, 1719, by sixteen families, who were accompanied by Rev^d James MacGregore, their first minister. A new parish, which is now Londonderry, was incorporated 25 February, 1740, and a second parish, now Windham, was incorporated 12 February, 1742.

The town was divided in 1827, and the old parish was incorporated by the name of Derry, while the second parish retained the name of Londonderry. ED.]

Petition of the Inhabitants of Londonderry for a Charter.
21 Sept., 1719.

[This paper was restored to the Secretary's office in 1827, after having been out of it 86 years. JOHN FARMER.]

The Humble petition of the People late of Ireland now settled at Nutfield to his Excellency the Governor and General Court assembled at Portsmouth Sep^r 23^d 1719.

Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners having made application to the General Court met at Boston in October last and having obtained a grant for a Township in any part of their unappropriated lands took encouragement thereupon to settle at Nutfield about the Eleventh of Aprile last which is situated by Estimation about fourteen miles from Haverel meeting House to the North West and fifteen miles from Dracut meeting House on the River merimack north and by East. That your petitioners since their settlement have found that the said Nutfield is claimed by three or four different parties by virtue of Indian Deeds, yet none of them Offered any disturbance to your petitioners except one party from Newbury and Salem. Their Deed from one John Indian bears date March the 13th Anno Dom: 1701 and imports that they had made a purchase of the said land for five pounds. by virtue of this deed they claim ten miles square Westward from Haverel line and one Caleb Moody of Newbury in their name discharged our People from clearing or any waies improving the said land unless we agreed that twenty or five and twenty families at most should dwell there and that all the rest of the land should be reserved for them.

That your petitioners by reading the Grant of the Crown of Great Britain to the Province of the Massachusetts bay, which determineth their northern line three miles from the River merimack from any and every part of the River and by advise from such as were more capable to judge of this Affair, are Satisfied that the said Nutfield is within his Majesties Province of New Hampshire which we are further Confirmed in, because the General Court met at Boston in May last, upon our renewed application did not think fit any way to intermeddle with the said land.

That your petitioners therefore imbrace this opportunity of addressing this honourable Court, praying that their Township may consist of ten miles square or in a figure Equivalent to it, they being already in number about seventy Families & Inhabitants and more of their friends arrived from Ireland to settle with them, and many of the people of New England settling with them. and that they being so numerous may be Erected into a Township with its usual Priviledges and have a power

of making Town Officers and Laws, that being a frontier place they may the better subsist by Government amongst them, and may be more strong and full of Inhabitants:

That your Petitioners being descended from and professing the Faith and Principles of the Establist Church of North Britain and Loyal Subjects of the British Crown in the family of his Majesty King George and encouraged by the happy administration of his Majesties Chief Governour in these provinces and the favourable inclinations of the good people of New England to their Brethren adventuring to come over and plant in this vast Wilderness, humbly Expect a favorable answer from this honourable Court and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c. Subscribed at Nutfield in the name of our people Sep^r y^e 21st 1719.

By,

JAMES GREGG
ROBERTT WEAR.

Petition for Bills of Credit, &c.

To his Excellency the Governour and Honourable Council of New Hampshire in General Court assembled at Portsmouth Apr. 18th 1721.

The humble Petition of the People of Nutfield,

Humbly sheweth. That your petitioners are sensible of the Goodness of God and Care and Protection of his Excellency the Governour and Council of New Hampshire in supporting and defending their plantation for which they render them unfeigned Acknowledgments of duty and respect.

That your Petitioners are in a Growing condition having already Exceeded the number of three hundred and sixty souls of which there are one hundred and thirty Effective men capable to bear Arms for his Majesty King George, as his Excellency the Governour and Council may think fit to Employ them.

That altho' your petitioners have Exhausted their money in Subduing the wilderness yet they are Carrying on all the parts of good Husbandry and building a House for the worship of God;

That your Petitioners want to be incorporated, that the affairs of their settlement may be managed with greater advantage.

May it therefore please your Excellency and your Honours to give order that our people which are already so numerous may not be too much Confined in respect of room by any

newer settlement in our Neighbourhood, that Bills of Credit May be lent out unto them upon due Security in some term of years to be paid again without interest in Hemp and other product of the land in such a sum as may encourage their Husbandry and especially their building of a meeting House, and that they may be duly invested with town Priviledges by Royal Authority, And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c.

David Cargill
 Abram Blair
 Robth Wear
 John Senter
 James Nesmith
 Samuel Moor
 John Moor
 Joseph Symons
 Joseph Crosbee
 Ronald Alexander
 Abel Merrill
 Thomas Bogell
 Robth Doke
 James Nikels
 Alex^r Nickels
 William Nikels
 John Barnet
 Ja: Archibald
 James Alexander
 Thomas Steel
 Will. Wilson
 Will. Thomson
 Edward Aiken
 Ramin Willson
 John Richey
 John Wallace
 Andrew Todd
 William Humphry
 James Lindsey
 Matthew Clark
 James Clark
 Rob^t M^r Keen
 Jo: Bar
 Gabral ? Bar
 Hugh Montgomery
 Samuel Morison
 Abraham Homs
 John Blair
 James Morison
 John Morison
 James Moore
 Andrew Spavid ?

Arch: Clendinen
 Alex Walker
 Samuell Allison
 Will. Campbell
 Allen Andrews
 John Coghran
 Will Coghran
 Alex^r Macneall
 William Cambell
 David Morison
 John Archbald
 James Aiken
 Will. Aiken
 John Bell
 Will: Caldwell
 John Barnet
 William Eayrs
 Ja: M^r Gregor
 David Cargill
 James M^r Keen
 James Gregg
 Robert Willson
 Samuel Graves
 John M^r Neall
 John Mitchell
 James Leslie
 Silas Creyes
 John M^r Morphy
 James Anderson
 John Blair
 James Blair
 John Shilder
 Benjamin Kidder
 John Anderson
 Robert Morison
 Stephen Peirce
 Edward Proctor
 John Goffe
 John Goffe, Jr
 Henery Green
 John Cromey
 John M^r Conochey ?

Charter of Londonderry.

Seal of
Londonderry
Charter

George by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c.

TO ALL PEOPLE to whom these presents Shall come, Greeting: Know ye, That we of our Especial Knowledge and meer motion for the due Encouragement of settling a new plantation by and with the advice and Consent of our Council have Given and Granted and by these presents as far as in us lyes, do give and grant in Equal shares unto Sundry of our Beloved Subjects whose Names are Entered unto a Schedule hereunto annexed That Inhabit or shall inhabit within the said Grant within our Province of New Hampshire all that Tract of Land within the following Bounds Being ten miles square or so much as amounts to Ten miles square and no more—Beginning on the North East Angle at a Beach Tree marked which is the south East angle of Chester and Running from thence due South on Kingstown Line four miles and an half and from thence on a West Line one mile and three Quarters and from thence South six miles and an half and from thence West north West nine miles and an half, and from thence North Eleven miles and an half from thence north north East Three miles from thence East South East one mile and from thence South South West to the South West Angle of Chester and from thence on an East Line Bounding on Chester Ten miles unto the Beach Tree first mentioned. And that the same be a Town Corporate by the name of Londonderry to the persons aforesaid forever, provided Nevertheless and the True Intent and meaning of these presents is any thing to the contrary Notwithstanding, that Nothing in this our said Grant shall extend to or be understood to extend to Defeat prejudice or make null and void any claim Title or pretence which our Province of the Massachusetts Bay may have to all or any part of the Premises Granted as aforesaid or the Right Claim Property or Demand of any Private Person or Persons by Reason and means of all or any part of the said Granted Premises falling within the Line as Boundaries of our said Province of the Massachusetts Bay. To Have and to Hold the said land to the Grantees and their Heirs and assigns forever upon the following Conditions, Viz^t 1st That the Proprietors of every share Build a Dwelling House within three years and settle a Family therein and Break up three acres of Ground and plant or sow the same within four years and pay his or their proportion of the Town charges when and so often as occasion shall require the same.

2^d That a meeting House be built within four years.

3th That upon Default of any particular proprietors in Complying with the Conditions of this Charter on his part such delinquent proprietor shall forfeit his share to the other proprietors to be Disposed of by Vote of the Major part of the proprietors. And in case of an Indian Warr within four years more after the said Warr is ended for performance of these conditions the said men and Inhabitants also Rendering and paying for the same to us our Heirs and successors or to such officer or officers as shall be appointed to Receive the same the annual Quit Rent or acknowledgment of one Peck of Potatoes on the first day of October yearly for ever Reserving also to us our Heirs and Successors all mast Trees Growing on said Tract of Land according to the acts of Parliament in that behalf made and provided and for the better order Rule and Government of the said Town We do by these presents grant for us our Heirs and successors unto the said grantees that yearly and every year upon the fifth day of march for ever except upon the Lords day and then upon the monday next following they shall meet elect and

choose by the Major part of the electors present all Town officers according to the Laws and usage of the other Towns within our said province for the year ensuing with such power privildges and authoritis as other Town officers in our province aforesaid do Enjoy as also that upon every Wednesday in the Week for ever they may Hold Keep and enjoy a market for the buying and selling of goods Wares and Merchandize and all Kind of Creatures, endowed with the usual privildges, profits and Immunities as other market Towns usually hold possess and enjoy and Two Fares annually for ever the first to be held or kept within the said Town on the Eighth day of October next and so De anno in annum for ever and the other on the eighth day of May following in like manner provided if it should so Happen that either of the days fall on the Lords then the said Fares shall be held and kept the day following, and that the said Fare shall have hold and possess the libertys, Priviledges and Immunities that other Fares in other Towns usually possess Hold & Injoy.

In Witness whereof we have Caused the seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, Samuel Shute, Esq Our Governour and Commander in Chief of our said Province, the 21st day of June Anno Domini 1722, and in the Eighth year of our Reign.

SAMUEL SHUTE.

By advice of the Council.

Richard Waldron, Cler.

Copy Examined,

Theodore Atkinson Secry.

The Schedule of the names of the Proprietors of Londonderry.

John Moore 1. Share	John Barr & Sons 2.
Abel Morrill 1.	Benjamin Kidder 1.
James Morrison 1.	Abraham Holmes 1.
Robert Willson 1.	David Crag & } 2.
Randel Alexander 1.	William Gilmore } 2.
John Mitchel 1.	John Gray 1.
Samuel Moore 1.	John Given 1.
Robert Doake 1.	John Stuart 1.
Archibell Clandinins 1.	Joseph Kidder 1.
John Archibells 1.	William Avers 1.
Alexander Walker 1.	Thomas Steal 1.
John Barnet 1.	John Gotte 1.
James & John Doak 1.	Thomas Bogel 1.
John Clark 1	Samuel Graves } 1.
James M Keen, & Son 2.	John Crummy } 1-2
Henry Green 1.	Elizabeth Willson & } 1-2
James Anderson 1.	Daughter Mary
Jonathan Taylor 1.	Samuel Allison 1.
James Nickels 1.	Martha Clark 1.
James Alexander 1.	Samuel Graves, Jr. 1.
Alexander Nickels 1.	John Gotte Jr. 1.
William Nickols 1.	John Morrison 1.
Coll ^d John Wheelwright 1.	James Linsey 1.
David Morrison 1.	Stephen Pearce 1.
William Humphry 1.	Robert Wier 1.
Edward Procter 1.	James Lesly 1.
Samuel Morrison 1.	Andrew Spaldin 1.

Allen Anderson 1.	John Senter 1.
John Anderson 1.	Robert MacKeen 1.
Alexander Mac Murphy } 1-2.	Jenet. Samuel and John } 1
& James Leget	M Keen
Mr M Gregore & Sons, 3.	William Cochran 1.
James Blair 1.	David Bogel 1-2
James M Gregore for } 1-2	John, Peter and } 1
servant	Andrew Cochran }
James Nesmith 1.	James Grage
John Blare 1.	Samuel Graves & } 1.
James More 1.	Robert Boise
James Clarke 1.	James Ackin 1
William Grage 1.	William Ackin 1
John Grage 1.	Edward Ackin 1.
James Grage & Sons 2.	John Wallace 1.
William Willson } 1.	Benjamin Willson 1.
and John Rickey }	Andrew Todd 1.
David Cargil Jr. 1.	John Bell 1.
William Tompson 1.	Capt Cargill for } 1.
Hugh Montgomery 1.	2 Servants
Robert Morrison 1.	George Clark 1-2
Alexander M Neal 1.	Thomas Clark 1-2
William Camill 1.	Nehemiah Giffen 1-2
Capt David Cargil 1.	James M Glason 1-2
Robt Boyes 1.	The parsonage Lot 1.
John M Murphy 1.	John Barnet Jr. 1.
John M Neal 1.	John McConey 1
John Archibald Jr. 1	John Woodbourn 1
James M Neal 1.	John Maclarge 1-2 ?
Daniel M Doughty 1-2	Benning Wentworth 1.
Samuel Huston 1.	Richard Waldron Jr. 1.
John Shields 1-2	Lieutenant Governor Went-
James Rodgers 1-2	worth 1.
Joseph Simmons 1.	Robert Armstrong 1.
Elias Keyes 1.	Robert Auchmuty 1.
John Roby 1.	

Memorandum over & above what is already given in this schedule is added to Mr M Gregore 250 acres, to Mr McKeen 250, to Mr David Cargil 100 acres to Mr James Grage 150, to John Goffe 100, for good service and to the Two last mentioned, viz^t Grage and Goffe a mill Stream within the said Town for their good Services in promoting the settlement of the said Town.

Richard Waldron,

Clr. of the Council

Province of } June 21st 1722. Admitted Proprietors and Common-
New Hampshire } ers in the town of Londonderry with the Persons
mentioned in the Schedule His Excellency Govern-
or Shute, a Home Lot and 500 acres, His Honour Lieutenant Gov-
ernour Wentworth a Home Lot & 500 acres Samuel Penhallow Esq. 1
share. Mark Hunking 1 share, George Jaffrey 1, Shadrack Walton 1
Richard Wibird 1, Thomas Westbroke, 1, Thomas Packer 1, Archibald
M'pheadris 1.

Richard Waldron

Clr of the Council.

Province of } Enter'd and Recorded according to the original the
New Hampshire } 15th Day of June 1743.

Pr. Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Copy Examined.

P Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Copy Examind, p. Geo: Jaffrey, C.

Petition about running the lines.

To the Honourable the Lieu^t Governour and Council of New Hampshire.

The humble petition of James MacKeen and James Greg in the name of the people of Nutfield, Humbly Sheweth.

That your Petitioners are deeply sensible of the divine goodness in disposing the Honourable Lieu^t Governour and Council of this Province from time to time to father and support our settlement.

That our Plantation is very numerous for the time, that our first divisions are filled with Inhabitants, and that we are ready to lay out and fill up Second divisions.

That we find ourselves too much confined in respect of room by the lines of Dunstable and Haverill and having no other way to enlarge ourselves but to the Northward, we did on the eighteenth day of April last run a line from the most northerly Angle or corner of Haverill a mile and half Westward, and then turned Northward; That the people of Cheshire have lately run a divisional line too close upon us and have cut off diverse of our homestead divisions; which was the more surprising to us in regard it was done without our Knowledge. Tho' the people of Cheshire were ordered by the honourable Lieut Governour Wentworth, before they did run the additional line, which themselves had consented to run west North west from the Peke of Haverill, to give us advertisement.

May it therefore please your honours to give orders for the running of a West north west Line from the said Corner of Haverill as a mean between our Line and that of Cheshire, and that our second divisions which we are now ready to lay out and fitt up along the said line may not be disturbed in their settlement. And y^e Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray & .

Petition relating to common lands.

Province of } To the Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq. Lieut
New Hampshire } Gov^r & Comander in Chief in & over
his Maj^{ty}s Province of New Hampshire
& to the Hon^{ble} y^e councill & house of Representatives in
Gen^l Court assembled.

The petition of us y^e subscribers, Inhab^{ts} & prop^r of Londonderry within his Maj^{ty}s Province Most Humbly Sheweth.

That in y^e year 1722. By the special Grace & bounty of this Gover^{mt}, yo^r Peteⁿ & Sundry others of his Majestys Most Duty full Protestant subjects were embodied into a Township & favoured with a Charter for y^e Town by y^e name of London-

derry and were thereby entitled to all y^e Priviledges, Right &c Imunitys y^t other Towns in y^e s^d Province usually hold & enjoy, y^t in May 1723 the s^d town voted y^t three men should Lay out y^e wants of homesteads and amendments & to y^t David Cargill, Wm Aiken & Jn MacMurphy were appointed y^e three men, on y^e 20 of Jan'y 1723-4 it was also voted y^e committee before appointed to lay out wants of homestead & amendm^t shall lay out y^e same quantity, quality Distence & Conveniency considered, y^t on y^e 6th of March 1726-7, Andrew Todd, W^m Aiken & Jn M^c Murphy were Chosen a comitteee for laying out y^e wants of Homesteads, Highway Land & Amendm^ts tho y^t Petit^s humbly observe there were some y^t put in their disent agst y^e same, y^t y^e s^d committee with^t taking any previous oath to y^e true & faithfull Discharge of y^e trust reposed in them as affores^d proceeded in their work, but with what equality & justice will appear to y^{or} hon^{rs} from very many Instances to long to be enumerated in y^e body of this petition; but by a paper here to annexed with reference thereunto being had more fully will appear y^t after y^e s^d Committee had thus with^t any regard to proportion & Justice; but in so doing served not only y^e interest of y^mselves but of such others who were so happy as to gain their fav^r at y^e Expence of Many of y^e old prop^r Interest & Just Right & Title in such comon & undivided lands as they thus unequally laid out y^t y^e s^d Lott layers with^t even acquainting y^e s^d town with these their s^d proceedings for approbation, or according to Law equity & Good Conscience they ought to Do. gave to such persons as they laid out to Coppy^s of their respective Lotts, who Imedately recorded y^e same in y^e Province & Toun Records, y^t most of y^e substantial & well thinking prop^rs of y^e s^d Town being Justly alarmed at these extraordinary & unprecentall proceedings at a town meeting Sometime in August last, Voted y^e Actings & Doings of y^e s^d Committee to be null & void as by s^d Vote more fully will appear to y^{or} hon^{rs} whereupon It was to be hoped y^t y^e same would put an end to y^e unhappy distractions & Divisions of s^d Town. But so it is: and so a prop^r y^t this Day had a part Interest thro out y^e whole town, tomorrow has not half y^e Interest & y^e next Day regains his s^d Right & Interest & y^e day following is stript of y^e same & all this done with^t any act of his own but by a maj^r Vote Pretended and thus Right & property is evidently rendered uncertain & fluctuating & *misera est Servillus ubi Jus est vacuum* & by y^e same doctrine & Rule y^e Maj^r vote may give or lay out all y^e right and property of y^e minority from them

That y^{or} petit^s endeavoured to Conciliate these differences by having y^e same determined by Indifferent who should examine y^e Justice & equality of y^e s^d comitteee in their several

layings out as afore^d but y^e same were rejected & all other overtures tho ever so reasonable that thus y^e Harmony peace & prosperity of s^t Town Inevitably will be lost with^t the interposition of y^e Hon^{ble} & this great & Gen^l Court. for y^e differences are of y^t Gen^l & publick nature y^t y^e ordinary proceedings in y^e Common Law courts will be so farr from curing y^t they will only put y^e town into a greater flame by y^e multiplicity of suits y^t therein naturally must arise & w^{ch} will also Tend to y^e great Impoverishm^t of y^e s^t prop^r wherefore it has been y^e great wisdom grace & fervour of this great & Gen^l Court & y^e g^r & Gen^l Court of y^e neighbouring province always to interpose in cases of so publick & complicated a nature where y^e prosperity of a community is so nearly engaged & either upon Publick hearings Imediately to enact & order therein as to their Known Wisdom, & experienced Justice seems most meet or either to appoint a committee to examine & Inspect s^d Grievances & make a Report thereof for y^e Legislature to pass thereupon. wherefore y^e distressed & Grieved Petit^{rs} are encouraged to approach y^{or} hon^{rs} to whose goodness they owe their present Right & possession & from whence they expect y^e same will be preserved unto them. & as it is their bounden duty will ever pray &c.

(N. B. If I am mistaken as to facts, correct the same.)

John Barnet
John Goffe
Samuel Graves
John Blarr
James Blair
James M Cartney
John Anderson
Gabrall Barr
John Harvey
Thomas Siell
Rob^t Wear
John Barnet, Jr
Hugh Wilson
John Stuart
Samuel Allison
James Morison

John Barr
Samuell Barr
Archibald Clendenin
William Umfra ?
Nathaniel Aiken
John Morison
John Mitchell
Daved Bogall
Thomas Bogall
Hugh Ramsey
Thomas Cochren
John Craig
Samuel Morison
Abraham Holmes
David Morison.

Jan^y 26th 1727. In the house of Representatives.

The above Petition being Read, ordered that the Petitioners serve the opposite parties concerned, with a copy of the petition and that they appeare each partie the second day of the sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m In y^e Spring session & to be heard in the premises.

James Jeffrey Clr Ass^m

In Cons^l Eod Die.

Read and Concurred.

R. Waldron, Clr. Con.

Oaths to be taken.

I ——— Do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithfull and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the second.

I ——— Do swear that I do from my heart abhor detest and abjure as impious and heretical that damnable doctrine & position that princes Excommunicated or deprived by the Pope or any Authority of the see of Rome may be deposed or murther'd by their Subjects or any other whatsoever. And I do declare that no foreign Prince Person prelate State or Potentate hath or ought to have any Jurisdiction power authority preeminence or authority ecclesiastical or spiritual within the realm of Great Brittain.

So help me God.

I ——— do truly and sincerely acknowledge profess Testify & declare in my conscience before God and the world, That our Sovereign Lord King George the second is lawfull & rightfull King of the realm of Great Britain and all other His Maj^{ties} Dominions and Countrys thereunto belonging. And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that I do believe in my conscience, that the Person pretended to be Prince of Wales during the life of the late King James, and since his decease pretending to be and taking upon himself the stile & title of King of England by y^e names of James the third or of Scotland by y^e names of James y^e eighth or the stile & title of King of Great Britain hath not any right or title whatsoever to the crown of the realm of Great Britain or any other the Dominions thereto belonging. And I do renounce refuse and Abjure any Allegiance or obedience to him. And I do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to His Majesty King George the second and him will defend to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever which shall be made against his Person Crown or Dignity: And I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to his majesty and his successors all treasons & traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be agst him or any of them, And I do faithfully promise to the utmost of my power to support maintain and defend the succession of the crown ag^t him the s^d James and all other Persons whatsoever, which succession by an act Entitled an act for y^e further limitation of the crown and better securing the rights and liberties of y^e subjects is and stands limited to y^e Princess Sophia Electress & Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the heirs of her body being Protestants, and all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear according to these express words by me spoken and according to y^e plain & common sense and understanding of the same words without any Equivocations mental evasion or secret reservation whatsoever. And I do make this recognition acknowledgment, abjuration renunciation and promise heartily willing and truly upon y^e true faith of a Christian.

So help me God.

Names of persons who took the above Oaths.

David Cargill
James McKeen
James Harvey
John Goffe
Hugh Montgomery
James Morison
John Mitchell
Jesse Criste
James Rodgers

James Leslie
John Goffe, Jr
Solomon Hopkin
James Adams
James Tagart
John Tagart
Samuel Houston
Patrick Douglas
Robert Cochran

John Adames	his
Thomas Wilson	Alexander ~ Renkine
James Wallis	mark
Alexander Walker	John X Conahie
James Reid	mark
John Macmurphy	Peter Coghran
David Macdaffie	Thomas Watte
John Morison	John Blair
Jonathan How?	James Lindsey
Alexander Macneall	John Douglas
Thomas Mackelme	John Archibald
Robtt Wear	John ———?
Archiball Clendenin	John McClourg
William Moor	Rus. Buron
John Barnet	Robt Thomson
Archibald Mac Murphy	Thomas Seiel?
Robert Kennedy	Gab: Bar
Moses Barnett	James Rueys
Samuel Morison	Nathaniel Aiken
James Blair	Jon. Hollms
James Taggart	Hugh Wilson
John Barnet	Robert Arbuckel
Andrew Clendenin	John Hopkin
Jon. Woodburn	John Archibel
Thomas Cochran	David Anderson
David Hunter	John Anderson
Allen Anderson	Samuel Renkin
Petter Cochran	Willam Cochran
James Gillmor	Wimen Cochran
Robt Morison	John Moore
Alexander Kelsey	William Aiken
David Cargill	James Clark
Andrew Todd	Jon Harvey
James Calwell	Abner Nickels
James Caldwell	Sam: Todde
James Alexander	James Moor
William Gregg	Samuel Allison
John Barr	William Gillmor
John Cromey	James Andrews
William Nickell	John Craig
John Gregg	William Eayrs
John	James Willson
James Nesmith	Robert Gillmore
James Thompson	Samuell Gregg
Matthew Clark	Angus Brown
Robert McKean	his
Samuel McKeen	Willm X Adams
John Cochran	mark
Charels McClarey	Benjamin Kidder
his	Thomas Bogall
John & Neale?	Benjamin Willson
mark	John Anderson
his	Abraham Holme
Willm & Kelliso	Alexander McMurphy
mark	John Blear
William Thomson	James Smith

David McGregore
 Christopher Airs
 Samuel Greaves
 Hugh Rogers
 William Coghran
 James Aiken
 ——— Blair
 William Eayrs

David Morison
 James Campbell
 Benjamin Chamberlain
 John McNeill
 Samuel Barr
 Joseph Irvine

Londonderry 7th 9th 1727.

The severall persons above mentioned took their oaths according to act of Parliament.

Petition about division of town lands.

To the Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq. Lieut Govern^r and Comand^r in Chief in & over His Maj^{ties} Province of New Hamp^r And to the Hon^{ble} the Council and represent^s Conven'd in Gen^l Assembly for s^d Province.

The Humble petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants & Proprietors of y^e town of Londonderry. Humbly sheweth,

That there has not been a Just & Equall Division of the land Among the Proprietors, the Maj^r part of said Proprietors having taken their choice of y^e land and also Voted to themselves Large Tracts for Amendments and past severall other Votes to y^e prejudice of the rest as pr the town book will appear.

And so yo^r Petitioners altho' we have Equall right (by Charter) wth the rest of the proprietors and have always paid our full proportion of the Town charge and some of us were some of the first settlers, yet we have been denyed y^e privilege of drawing our lotts. So that y^e Division is not only Contrary to the Practice of y^e other New Towns, but also against reason & Equity & the Intent of the Charter yo^r Petitioners therefore Humbly pray for relief and they will (as in duty bound) ever pray.

ROBERT WIARE } being a Committee chosen
 JOHN BARR } in behalf of ourselves and others.

In Coun. May 18th 1728.

Upon reading the within Petition ordered, That the hearing thereon be on thursday next y^e 23^d Ins^t at 3 o'clock P. M. and That the Petitioners serve the selectmen of Lond^e Derry wth a copy thereof and this order in y^e mean Time.

R. Waldron, cler. Con.

Sent down for concurrence.

May 18th 1728. In the House the above vote read & concur'd.

James Jaffrey Clr. Assⁿ

Differences about lands adjusted.

At a Proprietors meeting held at Londonderry April y^r 15th 1728.

Upon the above said day it is Votted that all the Differences concerning Mendment land Highway land and want of homestead land is agreed in the manner following viz:

That all persons that have allready Claim'd any land for the wants of the above mentioned lands, shall hold their claims having them viewed or viewed over, by a Committee of three men one of which shall be one that hath one of the poorest lots, and another of the men shall be one of them that hath one of the midway lots, and the third man of said Committee a man that hath one of the good lots, and brought to the method w^{ch} we shall hereafter Insert (viz). That the man that gets or hath gotten said land above mentioned at one mile distance or under shall have one acre of land, made as good as one acre of the president the lots were viewed by, for every acre they were allowed by the Committee chosen for viewing the home lots and so Gradually rising one quarter of an acre, for each half mlle, said land lieth distant from the sundry lots which are to have said land above mentioned, until it come to the Quantity of two acres made good as above for every acre that they are Allow'd for the wants above said, which will be at the distance of three miles, and so rise no more for any distance or consideration whatsoever, and they that have not yet got their above said land or claims, shall have liberty to put in their claims, they that want most or allow'd most claiming first and so on untill it come to the smallest quantity which is allowed to any for the wants above mentioned said land to be formed into ranges that so the commons may be laid out in order and the land that is to be viewed over which is already laid out shall be done at the cost of the town, and they that have bought any of the highway land and are not sattisfied with the method are to return said land and take their money, which they paid for said land again, and when more than one man is allowed an equal quantity of the above lands, they shall come to the Division of a Lot who shall claim first and every proprietor is to have twenty acres added to his claim or mendment, all Differences and Debeats whatsoever in our town Concerning land is done away in this vote. Vote, that the twenty acres above mentioned is to be laid out Quantity and Quality only considered.

And it is also voted on the aforesaid Day that three men shall serve and are chosen to lay out the lands above mentioned, the name of the men are as followeth:

JOHN MITCHELL
JOHN ARCHIBALD
JOHN WALLACE

Vera Copia
Pr. John MacMurphy
Town Clerk.

Petition for redress of injustice.

To the honourable John Wentworth Esq. Leu^{tt} Governor commander in Chieff of the Prov. of Hampsh^r and Generall Assembly of both houses

The humble petition of the Subscribers to this Honorable Assembly, wee complean of wrong don to us and grivoos in-

justice in laying out of our land by unjust methods viz. that a part of our proprietors have taken ther chois of all our comons and we are nott allowed nether lott nor chois and rendered *unsheur* of having our hom lotts made Equall with others, one method Dos not prevall hear to do as they wold be done by. Wee the Complenentt Desire and make requeast for a practicable reull that may yealld Saiftty to every party and thatt a magor vott may nott cutte any ? propriator outt of his right by design or conning which shell further appear by a paper annexed hereunto, which will make it appear mor fully to have ben practised hear on propertie hurttofore another the complainntt Seke for redress from this Honourable house and your Pettitioners shall ever pray.

May the 15th 1728.

John Barnet
Samuel Allison
William Nickels
John Anderson
James Morison
Archiball Clendenin
John Stuart

John Morison
William Umfra
John Barr
Rob^t Wear
Samuell Barr
John Barnet
Gabriall Barr

Petition of Londonderry respecting aggressions.

To his Excellency William Burnet Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire In New England &c and the Honourable Council now assembled att Ports^{mouth}.

The Humble petition of the Inhabitants of Londonderry within said province Humbly sheweth.

That, Whereas your petitioners have had no molestation in our setelment since we had a Charter from His excellency Gov^r Shute and the Honourable Council of this Province till of Late By Haverhill and methuine who have settled upon our Land and by authority from the Massachusets province have carried off Imprisoned and prosecuted and condemned our people in their Courts to our Detriment above two Hundred pounds which hath greatly Impoverished y^r poor petitioners and notwithstanding the mutual agreem^t made by y^r Excellency and the Honorable Councils of Both Provinces that no settlement nor improvements should be made by any till the division of the Divisional Line, yett the people of y^r province of the Massachusets are clearing and carying on all manor of work upon the River near which we know or township extends.

May it therefore please y^r Excellency and the Honourable Council to consider the premises and grant Relief as soon as it

can be agreeable and consistent with y^r opportunity and y^r petitioners shall ever pray.

April 30, 1729.

ALLEN ANDERSON	} Select men.
JOHN ARCHIBALD	
JAMES REID	

Petition against Haverhill people.

To His excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Govern^r and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hamps to the Honourable the Council and Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Conven'd

The petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Londonderry most humbly sheweth.

That in as much as the Inhabitants of the Town of Haverhill do often disturb sundry of your Petitioners in their quiet possession of their Lands granted to them by their charter under their pretensions of a Title thereto, we pray that the government may help and assist us in the defence of our title and possessions, or to take some method as in your wisdom you shall think best to prevent our being impoverished, if not ruined by Law Suits which are daily multiplied by them.

We pray that some act or order may be passed for the preventing any Law Suits Concerning the Lands near the Line until that be settled.

We pray that your Excellency and the Honourable Assembly will please to relieve us either by clearing us from the paying of Province Rates or to postpone our proportion of the Province Rates already assessed upon us, that we may be in some measure enabled to pay some Hundreds of pounds which we already owe by reason of those many Law suits in which we have been engaged and for the securing of such sums of money wee are willing and ready to mortgage our Lands.

So we shall ever pray as in duty bound &c

27th Aug^t 1730.

JAMES M^cKEEN
JOHN MACMURPHY

In the behalfe of the rest of the Inhabitants of Londonderry.

Petition relating to Minister's tax and a new parish.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq Governor & Commander In chief in & over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England, The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said province In General Court assembled the 31st day of January Anno Domini 1739.

The Petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry in the province aforesaid Humbly Sheweth,

That the Inhabitants of the said Town at a Town meeting In the year 1736. thinking it most expedient for their accommodation & Satisfaction To have the Town divided into two Parishes or Districts (as to their ecclesiastical affairs) accordingly then Voted a Dividing Line setting forth the course thereof in the vote and shortly after a Petition was Preferr'd to the General Court by the principal part of the Inhabitants living in the western part of the said Town praying that they might be erected & Incorporated Into a New Parish agreeable to the Boundaries mentioned in the said vote.

That altho the matter was not then fully effected yet so much was Done Pursuant to the said Petition that the Petitioners with their associates then & ever since have maintained a Gospel Minister among themselves & have look'd on themselves as a distinct Church & Congregation from that in the other part of the Town and as to affairs of that nature have acted separately tho perhaps in strictness of Law not absolutely & compleatly Disannexed and separated from the other part of the Town.

That the constant standing Rule of Raising the ministers Salary there ever since the settlement of the said Town has been to Levy a tax on the pews or seats in the meeting house which the Propriet^r or occupants under them have always paid, so that those who could not be rank'd under one of those heads paid nothing towards the said Salary.

That soon after the vote above mentioned the inhabitants of the said Western part of the Town proceeded to settle the Reverend Mr David Magregore as their minister who was accordingly ordained to the Pastoral office amongst them and he being a Gentleman with whose ministerial abilities and Moral Character your Petitioners (as well as all the said Inhabitants) are well satisfied and under whose ministry they sit with Pleasure, they are therefore more Solicitously Concern'd that he might be supported Suitable To his Character & Station. That however desirous your Petitioners (& their associates) have been to afford their said minister an Honorable maintainance they have not yet been able but barely to allow him a comfortable subsistence by reason of the unsettled condition they are in &

of the unhappy disputes controversies & Law suits between them & the other part of the said Town by whom they have allways been (as they think unreasonably) oppos'd In matters that Relate to the Premises which situation of affairs has also greatly disturb'd the peace of both societies & perhaps much Impeded not only the discharge of Christian duties but even the offices of Good neighborhood between them. That your Petitioners & their party have however at one time & another made all the overtures to their opponents that could in reson be expected for adjusting & ending the said differences & Issuing all their Controversies in an amicable manner which have hitherto prov'd fruitless & Ineffectual for that purpose, and they are not only still Subsisting but seem to be carried to a greater Length & are risen to a higher Pitch now than ever.

That notwithstanding the afore^sd rule & method of raising the ministers Salary in the said Town the said party, your petitioners opponents who are the Major part of the Town have lately voted that the support of y^e ministry among them (tho. they have at present no settled minister) shall be by a tax Levied on the whole Town in General without distinction thereby subjecting Mr Magregore's Congregation to pay toward the maintainance of the other minister or the supply of the other desk at the same time they maintain their own of themselves which seems to be a scheme projected purely to oppress & dishearten that Congregation or at least their present minister. That they are still willing to comply with any reasonable terms of Terminating the said differences but as the said Contending parties are never like to fix on such terms themselves your Petitioners in behalf of the said Congregation fly to this Hon^{ble} Court for aid and therefore Humbly Pray that the said Congregation with such others as are willing to join them (not exceeding the one half of the Town) may be freed & exempted from paying to any other ministers salary than their own & all other charges of y^e nature of Parish charges & may have Parish powers & authorities granted to them, or that both the ministers of the said Town for the time being may be Supported by an assessment on the whole town in Common according to the method of defraying Town charges in other Towns or that such other Redress may be Provided for your petitioners & their associates as this Hon^{ble} Court in their great wisdom & Goodness shall think proper & y^e Petition^{ers} as in duty bound shall ever pray &

James McKeen
John Creuig
James Adams
Hugh Mougntroy
John Jamison
Nathaniel Ekin

Daniel M'afee
James Gregg
James Lindsay
Robt Martin
John Blair
James Blair

John Wallas
 Matthew Reid
 James Willison
 Thomas Boyd
 Archibald MacMurphy
 Robert Arbuckell
 John Mack
 John Taget
 John Gregg
 William Gregg
 James Adams, Jr
 John Archibald
 John McKeen
 John Cochran, Senr
 Thomas Grega
 Robt Campbell
 John Duncan
 John Ritchy
 Robert Norris
 Peter Tuft
 Robt Anderson
 Willm Addams
 David Hunter
 Willm Robertson
 James Moore
 Tho: Jamison
 Tho: Boies
 James Nesmith
 Hugh Brown
 Edward Ackin
 James Tagart
 Alexr Patterson
 James Nesmith Jr.
 Willm Acking
 James Rodgers
 John. MacMurphy
 Willm Thompson
 Samll Gregg
 William Craig
 Hugh Gregg
 Hugh Moore
 Robt Morrison
 Charles Maclary
 Willm Dickey
 Elias Dickey
 Samll Boyd
 James Leslie
 James Smith
 John Anderson
 Willm Smith
 Samll Smith
 Arthur Nesmith
 James Anderson

Samll Anderson
 Tho: Anderson
 Robt Morrison Jr.
 Adam Dickey
 George Knox
 Matt: Taylor
 Andw Cochran
 Willm Nutt
 Willm Galt
 James Galt
 David Dicky
 John Woodburn
 James McNight
 Willm Gambell
 John Craig.
 John Anderson
 Arch'd McCurdy
 Robert McCurdy
 Samll Barr
 James Anderson
 Tho: Tippin
 Alexr Macmurphy
 Willm Jamison
 John Cochran
 George Duncan
 John Stewart
 Gabriel Barr
 James Clark
 Samll Grahams
 Hugh Grahams
 Robt Dinsmore
 Robt Anderson
 John Hopkins
 Samll Ranking
 Samll McKeeu
 Peter Pattyson
 George Duncan, Jr
 Willm Duncan
 James Moore Senr
 Nath Boyd
 James McKeen, Jr
 Samll Huston
 David Huston
 Hendry Mountgomery
 John Dickey
 Will. McNeal
 David Burnsides
 Robt Hopkins
 John Orr
 John Goffe
 James Reid
 Arche McCormuck
 Jas Eyars. No. 114.

In the House of Representatives Feb. the first 1739-40. The within Petition Read & Voted, vizt. That the Petitioners serve the select men of the Town of Londonderry with a copy of this Petition (at the Peti-

tioners Charge) And that they appeare to be heard Tuesday the twelfth Curr^t to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted (if the Court is then sitting) if not then the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m next sessions.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m.

In Coun. Feb. 6th 1739-40.

Rich^d Waldron Secry.

Feb. 6th 1739-40.

I assent to the above Votes.

J. BELCHER.

In the House of Representatives Feb. 14th 1739-40

The within petition read, and the partys heard by their Council, the House having considered thereof. Voted that there be an assessment made on the whole Town in Common according to the method of defraying Town Charges in other Towns for three years now next ensuing for the ministers Rates and that the same be applied and pay'd to the ministers each his respective Salary already agreed for: and that the Rate already made be gathered and applied in the same manner, and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Cl. Ass^m

In Coun. Feb. 15th 1739-40

Read and non Concurrred.

R. Waldron, Secry

Counter Petition.

We the under Subscribers being Inhabitants of L: Derry and province of New Hampshire (viz) living in the South-erly part of s^t town, we are Informed that their are Sundry of our Neighbours Petitioners your Excell^y and Hon^{rs} for a new parish in s^t Town, therefore we wod signify to your Excell. & Hon^{rs} that we hope by the blessing of God in a fue years to be fit to be Erected into a parish or precinct by ourselve their-fore we pray your Excell. and Hon^{rs} not to hurt our yong be-ginings in setting off a new parish in said town of Londonderry, as witness our hands. Dated at Londonderry aforesaid Feby the 9th 1739-40.

John Kille.
Jam^s Gillmore
Sam^l. Morison
Halbert Morison
Ezekiel Morison
Tho^s Morison
Will^m Thorn
John Creige
John Gillmor
Jam^s Bell
Will^m Bolton
John Bolton
Alex^r Richey
John Merrow
Thomas Quigley

John Vance
Jam^s Colwell
Jam^s Colwell, Jr
Jam^s Dunlap
David Greage
William Greage
Sam^l M Addams
Nathanell Hamphill
Charels Dourach, Jr
John Stuart
John Aram Strong
John M^cCay
Robart Thomson
Alexander Dunlap
John Willson

Alex^r Park
 Robart Park
 Joseph Waugh
 Samuell Campbell

William Campbell
 Hendry Camdbell
 John Cochran
 Jon. Cochran Jr.

Answer of Selectmen of Londonderry.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesties Council for s^d province and the House of Representatives in General assembly Convened.

The Answer of the selectmen of Londonderry to a petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of s^t Toun for a new parish, shews,

That at the General Court held at portsmouth in and for said Province in April 1736 there was a petition preferred to the General Court of s^t province that there might be a parish set off in the westerly part of s^t toun agreeable to a vote of s^t toun. that then the General Court was pleased by a Vote to set off a parish in the westerly part of s^t toun and that the meeting House or place of worship should be where it then Stood in the westerly part of said toun and that to the number of thirty five in s^d westerly parish might Remain to the old parish, and also thirty five of the old parish might go to the New parish, and that Before the s^t Vote of the General Court was reduced to an act the Secretarys House was consumed by fire the s^d Vote among other papers was Burnt at which grant to our neighbours by your Excell. & Hon^{rs} your answerers was fully satisfied and contented. But it hath so hapned since the Destruction of s^t papers that their is a party in the old parish friends to the Rev^d Mr M Gregore that has removed the publick worship of God from the Westerly meeting House Contrary to your Excell. & Hon^{rs} orders and have Built another meeting house within a mil and a half to the old meeting House which we conceive will tend more to the fomenting of our present Debets and the destroying of Religion than any thing Ells, and have used all means & methods to tear our toun into peaces and also they have tray'd all meathods to destroy our meathod in Rising our ministers Sallary in the old meeting house which meathod was to Rise the ministers Sallary upon the pews or seats in s^t House they still crying out that such a meathod was unjust and also contrary to the Laws of s^d province till this present year that they obliged the Town to pass a vote to Rise s^d Sallary by the poles and estats of s^d Toun agreeable to the Laws and Custom of this Province. That a number of the Inhabitants of s^d toun have Petitioned this

Honorable Court (this present sessions) for a new parish in s^t town. Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray that if their be any new parish in s^t town it may be agreeable to the line agreed upon in the s^t town and agreeable to the vote of the General Court. Namely that the meeting House be where it was first Built in the westerly part and that thirty five may go from the westerly part to the old parish and as many from the old parish to the westerly parish, and that the taxes already assessed in s^t town for this year past may be pay'd as assessed by s^t town.

Feb. 11th 1739-40.

ANDREW TODD	}	Selectmen for London-Derry.
HUGH WILSON		
MOSES BARNETT		

Votes relating to the places of public worship, &c.

Prov. of } At a meeting of the proprietors freeholders & Inhabitants
N. H. } of Londonderry held at the old meeting House Oct. the 6th
1739.

The Seventh article in the foregoing Warrant Being Read & considered by s^d Inhabitants It is Voted and agreed upon that the most westerly meeting House in the westerly side of s^t Town shall be the place of publick Worship for that Parish when set off by authority and laws of s^d province

A true copy taken out of the second Book of Records for Londonderry the 9th day of Feb^r 1739-40

Attest p.

Joⁿ Wallace town Clerk.

It is also voted & agreed upon at the afore s^d meeting by s^d Inhabitants that they will pay their Suppliers or Preachers of the Gospel in the old meeting House according to the Law and Custom of s^d province

A true Copy

attest p.

Joⁿ Wallace,
Town Clerk.

At a Toun meeting held at L: Derry Decb^r y^r 5th 1735.

Whereas at the aforesaid meeting after severall arguments and overtures made by the proprietors freeholders and Inhabitants where they wo'd have the aforesaid line made for a new precinct in the westerly side of this town in order to maintain a gospel ministry in that part of Londonderry the Moderator Desired all those that were Qualified to draw or form themselves up before the South side of the meeting house in two parties those that was for having a line Determined to be in one place and those that was not for having a line made to be in another place upon which those that was willing and contented to have a line Determined formed themselves together in order to be number'd and the town clerk, (viz) John M Murphy Rekn'd or counted them one hundred and twenty for having a line determined for a new precinct, upon which the moderator desir'd all those that was not for s^d line to form themselves also but they wo'd not and upon their refusall the moderator desir'd them to repair into the meeting House and either bring in written votes or to put themselves in form so as they might

be Reckn'd or counted, it was answered it was not worth while for that a great many was gone away and none spoke to the contrary, which line is voted as followeth that the Southerly line of our town upon the westerly side of Beaver Brook shall be the line upon that side and from said line and by Beaver Brook upon the westerly side untill it come to the Road that leads towards amnasceegg begining near the old Saw mill upon the Southerly side of Will^m Cockrons lott thence Runing as said Road as Highway leads to the foord way upon the Brook known by the name of the twelve acre Brook and from said foord way upon another line untill it come to Chester town line and from said Chester line to the Southerly line first mentioned.

A true copy taken out of the second book of Records for Londonderry

Attest pr.

John Wallace, town clerk

Petition of 2^d Congregation relating to Presbyterial authority, &c.

To the Honourable Richard Waldron Esq Secretary of His Majestys Council in New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of Sundry the members of the 2^d Congregation In Londonderry and Province aforesaid In behalf of themselves and others, Sheweth.

That those of your Petitioners who dwell In the Western side of the Town were disannexed as a distinct Parish by a Vote of the Town in a legal Town meeting In the year 1736. That those who dwell within y^e Bounds of the old Parish were dismissed from said Parish by Presbyterial Authority all which we can make appear by authentick Records. That the place of worship where we now meet was agreed upon before our minister was ordained by a Great Majority of our Congregⁿ as we can make appear by a written agreement to that purpose. That we beg your Hon^r would hear our agent Mr Reid upon this Head who can plainly demonstrate the necessity of our place of worships being fixed where it is. That the vigorous opposⁿ w^h has been made against us from time to time what ever specious pretences it may be cloathed withall proceeds from a rooted antipathy against our Minister or rather against his Father y^e late Mr M Gregore whose memory is still dear to us and we think ought to be to our whole Town. That had we an opportunity of letting your Honor Into some passages of the Secret History of our Town we could make it manifest that this is no groundless inuendo. That the prayer of our petition now before his Excellency and Council if Granted cannot hurt the old congregation whatever clamour of this sort they may make they being still far more numerous and wealthy than we and their meeting house as well or better situated for the accomodation of their People. That we cannot help sus-

pecting that we have been Secretly Stigmatized as persons disaffected to his Excellencys Governm^t by some who make lies their refuge. That if nothing be done for our relief at this Juncture we are affraid our minister will be obliged to leave us which will be exceeding heavy to us considering the great love we have to him and the Edification and comfort we enjoy under his administrations. That your Honours doing somewhat to extricate us from our present difficulties will lay such an obligⁿ to Gratitude upon us as will endear you to us more than ever which we shall be ready to make appear by our future conduct.

May it therefore Please your Hon^r since we flee to you for Succour to use your Interest upon our behalf with his Excellency & the other honourable members of the Council That our Petition may be reconsidered and that somewhat may be done for our relief that may be looked upon as reasonable and Just and your Petitⁿ as In duty bound shall ever pray.

Signed at Londonderry, this 18th day of Feb. 1739-40 by

James Nesmith
Samuell Barr
James M Keen
John Archibald
James Anderson
James Adams
George Duncan
John Blair

Sam. Gregg
James Cleark
Daniel Macduffee
Nathan Macfarland
Alexander McNeill
James Reid
Matt. Reid

By appointment

In Council February 21st 1739-40

Upon reading the petition for a new parish in the Toun of Londonderry, Voted that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for making a new Parish by the bounds mentioned in a vote of the said town dated X^{ber} 1st 1735. with a saving to forty persons to go over to the new pish from the old and the like number from the old to the new, if there be so many on each side that desiers it Provided they make their request Known to the select men within two months from the date of the Act, and that what money shall be collected or has been collected from the Petitioners the curr^t yeare for paying the Incumbent at the old meeting house shall be refunded or pay'd to the selectmen of the new Parrish that shall be chosen by Virtue of the act now to be made towards defraying the Charge and Sallary of the New parish.

Richard Waldron, Secry.

Eod^m die. In the House of Representatives Read and Concurr'd with this amendment, Viz that it be said. the like number from the new to the old Instead of from the old to the new.

James Jeffrey. Cler. Ass^m

In the House of Representatives Feb 23^d 1739-40

The annexed Bill passed to be enacted.

James Jeffrey Clr Ass^m

AN ACT for erecting and Incorporating a New parish in the town of Londonderry in the province of New Hampshire.

Whereas sundry of the Inhabitants of the said town have petitioned the Generall Court setting forth that the number situation and other

circumstances of the inhabitants of the said town Rendered it necessary to have Two parishes there, That the Inhabitants at a Town meeting in the year 1735, Voted where a Dividing Line shoud Run in case this Court should see meet to allow and confirm it and praying that a New Parish might be incorporated with all the necessary and Common Powers and Authoritys of Law.

Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governour Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same. that there shall be and Hereby is a New Parish made erected and Incorporated within the Township of Londonderry aforesaid by the following meets and Boundaries viz. the southerly line of said Town upon the westerly side of the Brook Called Beaver Brook shall be the line on that side and from said Line by Beavours Brook upon the westerly side untill it comes to the Road that leads Towards ammaskang Beginning Near the old saw mill upon the southerly side of William Cochrans Home Lotts thence running as said Road or High way Leads to the fordway upon the brook Known by the Name of the twelve acre Brook and from said fordway upon a North Line until it comes to Chester Town Line and from said Chester line to the southerly line first mentioned Being the same dividing lines that were Voted by the inhabitants of the said Town at a meeting there held on the first of December In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty five for the Boundaries of a New Parish—And all Poles and estates Living within and comprehended by the aforesaid Lines except as is herein after excepted shall be disannexed from and Exempted and discharged of and from paying towards the support of the ministry school or schools and all other parish charges of and in the other part of the Town or the old parish and are hereby erected and Incorporated into a New Parrish with full power and Authority to Raise Money on the said poles and Estates by way of Tax for the support of the ministry school or schools and all other charges of the Nature of parish charges within said Parish according to and in the way and manner by Law directed for Raising and defraying toun Charges within the Touns of this province.

Only excepting saving and Reserving a Liberty unto any number Not exceeding forty of the persons living within the limits of the old parish aforesaid to go over unto and to Become members of the said New parish if they see cause and on the Contrary for any number not exceeding forty of the Persons Living within the Bounds of the said New Parrish to go over unto and become members of the said old parish if they see cause—And in order To determine who are or shall be the persons unto whom the said liberty is granted it is hereby ordered and Directed that those who Incline to exchange to belong to the parish in which they do not Live as aforesaid shall within the limits of two months from the publication of this act give in their Names to the selectmen of the town or old Parish for the time being signifying their desire of Exchanging Parishes as aforesaid and all such persons who shall give in their names not exceeding the number aforesaid on each side with their families and estates shall be parishioners of and belong unto the said Parishes respectively as they shall signify the same as aforesaid—And to prevent Disputes who shall be of the said Number in case more of both or either side should desire it, the same shall be determined by the order of entring the Names as aforesaid Beginning with the first on each side Read three times and passed in the House February 25th 1739-40

Andrew Wiggin Speaker
Richard Waldron Secretary

Assented to JONATHAN BELCHER

Petition for a new Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r and Commander In Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{le} His Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Court convened.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the South part of Londonderry in said Province, Humbly Shews,

That your Petitioners by the Situation of their estates and Places of residence in the said Town labour under considerable difficulties unknown to others not in their circumstances, more especially with respect to their Attendance on the public worship. The greater part of them or rather all of them except three living upwards of Seven miles from either of the meeting houses in the said Town, the inconveniences of which are self evident.

That the Inhabitants of the Parish in the said Town to which your Petitioners principally belong sensible of the difficulties attending your Petitioners in this regard have lately at a public meeting voted what should be the boundaries of a new parish if the Petitioners can obtain the authority of this court to incorporate them and that there will be no opposition (as your Petition^r conceive) from any part of the said Town to the erecting a new parish by the boundaries voted as afores^d. Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray this Hon^{ble} Court to erect a New Parish in the said Town by the boundaries aforesaid which will Comprehend a tract of land of near six miles in length and four in breadth lying on the South side at the Easterly end of the said Town and Take in your Petitioners habitations & estates and that they may be invested with such legal powers and authorities as may be sufficient to answer the ends and purposes of such a precinct, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Thom: Morrison
Halbert Morrison
Jn^o Dinsmore
Rob^t Hopkins
John Cochran
Alexand^r Dunlap
Jn^o Gilmore
Jam^s Dunlap
Rob^t Tompson
Jn^o Wilson
Jn^o M Kye
Josh Waugh
Jn^o Stewart
W^m Bolton
Ja. Bolton
David Bolton
W^m Gregg

Henry Campbell
W^m Campble
Tho^s Cample
Hugh Grimes
W^m Eamerson Jr.
Jas Caswal, Jr.
Jn^o Murray
Arthur Grimes
Jam^s Bell
Sam M Adams
J^{no} Bolton
Tho^s Quigly
David Gregg
John Armstrong
Alexand^r Park, Jr
Alexand^r Park
Ezek^l Morrison

Rob^t Dinsmore
 Sam^l Morrison
 W^m Jameson
 Jn^o Kyle
 Ja: Gilmore
 Rob^t Park
 Ja^s Caswell
 Jn^o Kyle, Jr

Sam^l Campble
 Jam^s Campble
 Nath^l Hemphill
 Sam^l Smith
 W^m Waugh
 Jn^o Gilmore
 Jn^o Vance.

Jan. the 21st 1741. In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition read and Voted, That the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of the Town of Londonderry forthwith with a Copy of the Petition and the Votes thereon, that the said town of Londonderry may appear at the General assembly on thursday fortnight to shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition may not be granted, and if the General Court shall not then be sitting then to appear the third day of the sitting of the next session of General Assembly

James Jeffrey, Cler. Ass^m

In Coun. Jan. 27th 1741-2

Read and concurred.

Rich^d Waldron Secry.

Jan 27th 1741-2.

Assented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

The petition^{rs} having bro^ta certificate from the Selectmen of Londonderry that excepting 3 or 4 persons they have nothing to object ag^t the prayer of the petition being granted, the House having considered thereon, Voted that the prayer of the Petition be granted (Excluding the persons & estates of John Archibald James Clark, James Moore John Hopdins & John Cockrane) that they be set off by the Bounds in the Petition and have all powers within themselves as other Towns have keeping & supporting an orthodox minister to preach amongst them & joyn with the Town of Londonderry and pay their proportion to him & all taxes already made, and that they have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^m

In Council Feb. 10: 1741-2

Read & concurrd.

Rich^d Waldron, Secry

Feb. 10th 1741-2

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

[In the original is a plan of the said Parish. ED.]

The Bounds of the Town of Londonderry as run out p me are as follows (viz), Beginning at a Beach Tree the south East Corner of Chester & from thence it runs South four miles & one half mile to a Read Oak spotted on four sides & marked L. D. for Londonderry & Sundry other Letters, then it runs West one mile & three Quarters of one mile to an Oak stake standing three rod^s & one half rod to the North of a Bunch of maples Standing in a hollow & spotted & marked as aforesaid then it runs south six miles & one half mile to a Pitch Pine tree standing about 25 rods to the South of hally hack meadow marked as the first, then nine miles & half west North west to a Pitch Pine standing ninety two rods over a Brook marked as aforesaid, Then North Eleven miles & one half mile to a Pitch Pine marked as aforesaid then north north east three miles to a Red Oak marked as aforesaid then E. S. E. one mile to a White Ash tree standing in a run of Water that runs into a Pond, then strait to Chester Corner it being three Pitch

Pines marked by a former committee & well spotted & marked with the letters L. D. then East South East ten miles & fifty five rods to the Beach Tree first mentioned.

Dated at New market April y^e 12th 1742.

Walter Bryant.

rec^d into the Secry Office 15th April 1742.

Attest Theod^r Atkinson

Copy P. Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition of Samuel Barr.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Council for said Province.

Samuel Barr of Londonderry in said Province of New hampshire for himself and in the name and behalf of the Proprietors of the said Town of Londonderry Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners for several years past has been verry greatly disturbed and troubled and incroach'd upon in their Possessions, & in defence of the same has Expended from time to time in the Law near two thousand Pounds against the Inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay and tho' some of those persons that formerly made Incroachments upon the Said Town of Londonderry, By the late settlement of the Line fall within the Province of New Hampshire, yet still they continue to Incroach upon s^d Town and carry off the smal part of Timber that is yet growing there and other disturbances There on pretence that the Bounds of said Town was never yet Run out and ascertained.

Wherefore, for ascertaining the Bounds and limits of the said Town and to prevent any further disputes or unesieness about the Limits thereof, your Petitioners most humbly Prayes your Excellencie & the Hon^{ble} the Council to appoint a Proper Person as surveyor and Chainmen under oath to run and perambulate the lines of said Town according to the Charter on the east. south and west sides, and home to Chester Bounds, (the Bounds between Chester and Londonderry having been perambulated by consent of both Towns Several times already) or otherwise as to your Excell^y and Hon^{rs} shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &^e

Feb. 25th 1741-2.

SAMUELL BARR.

In Council Feb. 26, 1741-2

The within Petition of Sam^l Barr in behalf of the Proprietors of London Derry read and voted thereon that a Surveyor and Chainmen be appointed and sworn to perambulate and renew the bounds of the

said Township according to the lines mentioned in their charter and that the Surveyor make a plan of the same and return to his Excellency the Governour to be lodged in the Secretarys office and that the same be done as soon as may be with conveniency and His Excellency is desired to appoint the Surveyor and chainmen And that the Petitioners defray the expence and also notify the selectmen of Kingston & Chester six days before the busyness is entered upon.

Rich^d Waldron, Secry.

Petition for division of land, &c.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov. Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England to the Honourable his Majesties Council and Honourable house of Representatives in General assembly Convened,

The humble petition of the Subscribers, Sheweth,

That there is a third Division of Land lying in the township of Londonderry in this Province which Belongs to the Heir of the Rev^d Mr Thomas Thomson Deceased and to y^r Petition^{rs}. Mathew Taylor, John Archibald and James Reid. That the said third division of Land never was Sub divided between the foresaid parties.

That y^r Petitioners Matthew Taylor &c are under an Indispensible necessity of selling their share of the same Land in order to defray an incumbent debt they Laid themselves under an obligation to pay at their Purchassing the same.

May it therefore Please y^r Excellency and Hon^{rs} to take our Petition under your Consideration and according to y^r Wonted Justice make such provision for y^r Petitioners as that the said third Division or any other division of Land that may be laid out in Common between the foresaid Heir and y^r Petitioners for time coming may be divided So as each party may dispose of their own share as need may be and y^r Petitioners as in duty Bound shal ever pray.

MATHEW TAYLOR
JOHN ARCHIBALD
JAMES REID

We the Subscribers do consent to the pray^r of y^e foregoing Petition & its agreed by Both Parties That James Rodgers, John Wallace, & Tho^s Coughran be appointed to Divide s^d Land if the Pray^r of s^d Petition be granted. Given under our hands att Londonderry this 18th day of January 1741.

WILL^m DAVIDSON,
FRANCES DAVIDSON.

Jan the 27th 1741. In the house of Representatives.

The within Petition Read, and voted that the Petitioners serve the Executors or adm^s of the Late Reverend M Thomson, with a copy of the Petition and votes thereon, that they may appeare at the Gen^l Assembly as soon as Possible (& bring a copy of the said M^r Thomsons will or letters of administration), and to shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted, and if they cannot appeare while assembly is now sitting, then to appeare the 3^d day of the siting of the next sessions of Gen^l Assembly.

James Jeffry Cler. Assⁿ

In Coun Jan 27, 1741-2

Read and concurr'd

Rich^d Waldron, Secry.

Jan 27, 1741-2

Assented to.

B. WENTWORTH.

In the House of Representatives March the 12th 1741-2. Upon Reconsidering the above vote of the House of the 27th Jan. last past, Voted that the Petitioners Serve the Ex^{rs} or Adm^s of the Late Reverend Mr Thomson (Late of Londonderry Cle^r Deceased) with a copy of the Petition and the order of the Gen^l Assembly thereon to notifie the said Ex^{rs} or adm^s afforesaid to appear at the Gen^l assembly next thursday at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to shew cause (if any he or they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted, & if the Gen^l Assⁿ shall not then be sitting then to appeare the 3^d day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next sessions.

James Jeffry

Cler. Assⁿ

In the House of Representatives March the 10th 1741-2

The within petition Read, The Petitioner James Reed appear'd & Robert Boyce Esq adm^s to the Rev^d Mr. Tomsons Estate appeared the Parties heard & Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that James Rodgers, John Wallace & Thomas Couchran be authorized & Impowered to make Division of the Land mentioned in the Petition: and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Cler. Assⁿ

In Council Eod. Die

Read and Concurr'd

R. Waldron, Secry.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of inhabitants of old and new Parishes of Londonderry.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Maj^{ties} province of New hampshire the Honourable his Majesties Council for said Province and the house of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened.

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitation of Londonderry in the province of New hampshire belonging to the old and new parishes humbly Sheweth.

That whereas in february in the year 1739-40 there was a

new parish sett off in this town by the Generall Court, Granting Liberty to fourty famelyes that lived within the Bounds of the said new parish still to Remain members of the old parish with their estates and at the same time granted Liberty that fourty famelys that lived within the Bounds of the old parish Should become members of the new parish With their estates if they saw cause.

Which accordingly was performed and that still their was some few famelys and single persons in Both parishes that was not contented because they were obliged to pay there parish Tax where they properly belonged and went to the contrary parish to the publick worship, and that whereas freedom and Liberty is most to be Desired especially in Religious affairs and whereas every christian ought chiefly to study those things That will be most for the advancement of the Redeemers Kingdom out of a consious concern for those persons that they might obtain their freedom and liberty as well as the Rest of the people of this town the Two parishes chose each of them a committee to see to accomodate that affair who is the Subscribers to this petition and was legally chosen for Said End, and accordingly we meet and after some conversation about the affair we came to a mutuall agreement that all persons who had a mind to become members of the new parish should on a certain day then appointed meet the two committees and sign their names to said agreement which is two tedious here to Insert and those that had a mind to become members of the old parish had the same liberty and accordingly at the Day appointed the people came and signed their names only their is a saving clause in said agreement that we did not Intend any Infringment on the Court Act Relating to the fourty famelys belonging to each parish; Wherefore your petitioners humbly prays your Excellency the Honourable the Councill and house of Representatives that you would be pleased to pass an act to establish this our agreement. & that those persons. with their estates who hath already signed their names with us may become members of the old and new parish as they have signed, and that you would be pleased to Incorporate the new parish into a town & have priveledges as other towns except it be about highway work and taking the Invoice for the payment of the publick tax. Likewise that you would be pleased to explain the former act Relating to the fourty famelys that is to say whither on the sale of any of those fourty estates the purchaser shall be obliged to pay his parish tax where the estate was signed unto, or whither he may be at his Liberty to go to the other parish if he sees good. Also that all trangent persons who shall come to sojourn in this town shall have liberty to sign there names in three months after there arrivall with

the Selectmen of the parish where they design to Belong and shall be obliged to pay there taxes there and your petitioners as in Duty bound ever shall pray.

James Gregg	Hugh Millson	} Committee
Moses Barnett	Robt Cochran	
James Nesmith	James Clark	
Thomas Willson	James Aiken	
Samuell Barr	Archibald M ^c Cormick	
Jo ^r Wallace	James Taggart	

In the House of Representatives 9th the first 1741. The within Petition Read and parties heard. and Voted that the Prayer of the Petition be so far Granted as concerns the signers mentioned in the agreem^t mentioned in the Petition and that the new Parish be made a particular Precinct by the name of ——— and y^t they have the prevelidges as other towns or Parishes have by the Laws of this Province excepting the choice of assembly man which shall be chosen as formerly By the whole Town, and as to the forty familys formerly Polled off in either new or old pish, that their persons or estates stand as they are and likewise their successors in the several estates either by Descent or purchase to Remaine the same having sign^d according as the Petition mentioned and as to any new Comers that is Tradesmen or ministers &^c that Shall Signifie to the clerk of the Town within 3 months after they come there to live, where they will belong, and that all children & Servants when they become Rateable shall pay where their parents or Masters pay, and that the Petition^{rs} have liberty to Bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffrey Cler. Ass^m

In Coun. March 13th 1741-2
Read and Concurred.

R. Waldron

Same day

Assented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of selectmen respecting Parish bounds.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty} Province of New Hampshire and to the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ty} Council of said Province.

The Humble Petition of the select men of the town of Londonderry in the province aforesaid most Humbly sheweth,

That your petitioners Laying upon or near to the boundry line of the province and so a grait part of our town always disputed in the Law by which your petitioners yet labors in enumerable difiquelty which is attended with large expence and yet some of the desturbers of our peace and not our peace only but of the peace of other towns and also of the province itself, have as we understand petitioned for a part of our town on the East part of our town to be annexed to a new parish or town of there own forming by which if granted would in a measuer destroy our old parish and cut a grait many mens estates to pieces.

May it therefor pleas your Excelency and Honors to take our case into your consideration and not to brake in on our town in any ways which if don will render our town for ever miserable and your petitioners as in duty bound shal ever pray.

Deatted at Londonderry,
February y^e 10th 1746-7

HUGH WILLSON	} Select men
ADAM CLENDININ	
THO ^s HORNER	

Petition to be Taxed in Nottingham-West.

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
New Hamp^r } Governour &^c The Hon^{ble} his Majestys
Councill & House of Representatives in Gen^l
Assembly convened, Jan. 1754.

The petition of Sundry Inhabitants now within the lines of Londonderry whose names are entered on the Back hereof most humbly shews,

That whereas by the unhappiness of the line formerly not being Known and agreed to by this and the Massachusetts Province the grant of Dunstable and Londonderry Interfered, by which means wee and the chief part of our Lands fall within Londonderry

That when we began our settlements there, we was part of the town of Nottingham, and considered as such both as to Duty & Priviledge.

That by the late Incorporation of the lands adjoining to Londonderry we were not considered in their Resettlement and Building their meeting house^r Neither is the settlement of either of the meeting housen in Londonderry which are sett on the Northeasterly part of that town ten miles from the greatest part of us from some of us eleven and that none of us live within nine miles the Road we pass to the nearest of their meeting housen.

That upon our application to this Hon^{ble} Assembly sometime since we obtained the favour to be Dismissed from the Taxes Londonderry had then assessed us and in the future till the further order of this assembly.

That altho Nottingham and Litchfield meeting housen are under their last Regulation sett about three miles nearer than Londonderry yet the travill is so far that it is very difficult for us to attend their great part of the year, yett Nottingham has been the place wee have attended the ministry when the season was such we could travill.

That the distance we are from Londonderry renders it Impracticable for us and our familys to attend there on Lords days and their Known numbers and Riches leaves no room for pre-tending to need us to support that charge.

Nottingham has hitherto favoured us with Liberty to meet with them and are still willing without our being taxed to the support of their minister.

That we shall chearfully amongst our selves in the Winter season hire as much as our abilities will admit till we may by some future opportunity be Better accomodated.

Wee justly expect and are Willing to pay to the support of Government (an Invaluable priviledge) what our Equitable part is & shall be. That ever since we have been settled, have & still do keep and maintain Good Hyways thro all that part we claim where they have been found of convenience & are Willing to continue so to do :

Wherefore we Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours would be pleased to take these premises into your consideration & to grant that wee may be altogether freed and not subjected to any Tax or assessment in Londonderry, and that wee may be so far sett of and annexed to Nottingham west as to be taxed with them to the province charges ; and as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Ebenezer Spalding
Isaac Page
Joseph Kidder
Richard Marshall
George Burroughs
Ezekiel Chase
Gorge Burroughs Jr
John Marshall, Jr
Millen ? Hills
William Butterfield
Ezekiel Page
Leonard Cumings
Stephen Spaulding
Joseph Kidder

John Kidder
Thomas Mash
William Hill
Samson Kider
Noah Kidder
Benjamin Melven
James Barret
Moses Barret
Reuben Spalding
Moses Lowell
Nathaniel Hills
David Lawrence
Stephen Lowell.

Prov. New Hamps

In Council Jan. 9th 1754, read &

Ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives.
Theodore Atkinson, Secry

Province of) In the house of Representiatives January the 9th 1754.
New Hamp)

Upon reading the within Petition Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the third Day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the 1st day of March next & that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of Londonderry with a Copy of this Petition & of the order thereon that they may shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted

Matthew Livermore,
Clerk.

Province of } In the house of Representatives March 28, 1754.
New Hamp }

Voted that the Petition herewith annexed be dismiss'd.

Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

Counter petition.

To his Excell^y Benning Wentworth Esq Gov^r & Comander in Chief In & over his Majestys Prov of New Hamp. and to the honourable his Majestys Counsel & house of Rep^{ts} in Gen^l Court assembled March the 27th 1754.

The humble Petition of the Town of Londonderry of the said Prov. Sheweth,

That having been lately served by order of Assembly with the copy of a petition Subscribed by a number of people living at present upon some of our Lands in the Southwestern part of the Town, wherein they request to be disannexed from Londonderry, we crave leave to represent as follows: That were we before a court whose Business it is to Judge of the Right of the soyl we might say that as the land upon which the Petitioners is settled did upon the determination of the Boundary Line between the provinces fall within the province of New Hamp. it thereby plainly appears that the assembly of the massach^{ts} had never any power to grant it that therefore their pretending to hold by Dunstable gives them no just Title to the Land. That had the Mass^{ts} obtained all that they desir'd of his Majesty, viz. a curve line the case of the petitioners with respect to Title would have been the same all of them living above three miles distant from the River. That the far greater part if not the whole of the Petitioners have settled since the Determination of the line and some of them very lately. But as it may be perhaps said that these things are not a proper Subject to be laid before the honorable assembly we insist not on them but proceed farther to say, That the Town of Windham a part of Londonderry is so much weakened by a considerable number of the Inhabitants being freed from any obligation to support the Gospel ministry there that the remaining part was left too weak to support the said charge, in consequence whereof their minister has been obliged to leave them and they are at present destitute of the principal outward means of Grace without any rational prospect of its being soon otherwise.

That the western parish of Londonderry is already considerably weakened by the Incorporation of Derryfield that should another large part be taken off on the South western side especially if that is done with a view and as a step towards a yet

farther Incroach^t the Conseq^s is like to be soon the same with the Western Parish as that with Windham above mentioned.

That the thing the petitioners ask of this honorable assembly, viz. to be disannexed from Londonderry without being incorporated either as a Town or Parish is (as far as we know) without example in the Prov^s and it is left to the reasonable consideration of this wise assembly whether (if granted) it might not prove a bad precedent. That as the petitioners Locality which renders their distance from both our places of publick worship considerable is the only Plea enforcing their Petition w^{ch} has any appear^{ce} of weight So even in that Respect we humbly appreh^d they have no reason to complain since they have not been nor are like to be at any charge either in Building a meeting house or supporting a min^r with us.

May it therefore please your Excell^y and Hon^{rs} to take the Premises under your wise and Impartial Consideration and at least to delay the granting of said petition till the circums. of the Petitⁿ be so far altered as to give them some Just Reason of complaint and your Pet^{rs} shall ever pray.

Signed In our Name and at our App^t at Londonderry this 26th day of March, 1754, by

SAMUEL BARR	} Selectmen
JOHN HUMPHRY	
SAM ^{ll} ALISON	

Petition relating to a military company.

Province of	} To his Excellency Benin Wentworth Esq.
New Hampshier	
	Captain Genarall and Governor In Chief
	In and over his Majestys Province of
	New Hampshire

The humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of West part Londonderry In said Province.

Your Petitioners Mos humbly Sheweth that we have for severall years past Intende to Rais a new Compney In this Remot Pairt of this town if your Excellency will Gratify us so fare for the Rasons following to wit: that the nearest of us lives more than four and some five, six, & Seven mills from the comon Place of Peraid which is a great fetague to your Petitioners and besides severall of your Petitioners did formerly Belong to Capt Gregg Compney of which William Blair is Insign whos name is famos all over the contrey for his managment with Jotham Odihorn Esq Leet of Portsmouth Deceased, and notwithstanding of the aforesaid villeny the said Blair was Permitted to cary the collors last training day In the

aforesaid Greggs Company soon after your Petitioners meet together and drew this Petition and chous for our ofesers the following persons to wit, Mr Thomas Wallace for our Captain, Mr Joseph Senter for our Leftenant, and Mr James Airs for Insign.

Therefore your Petitionars Most humbly prays that your Excelency would be Pleased to Grant us Comishons to the aforsaid Mishors Wallace Senter and Hers in the aforesaid station and Set us of as a new company and we as Loyall subjects shall Indeavour to serve our King and Contrey to the outmost of our power and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray. Subscribed at Londondery August the 20th

1754

William White
Joseph Willson
William Willson
William Houston
Joseph Willison
Moses Senter
Benj^a Willson
Thomas Joans
Rubuan Senter
Stephen Spalden
Patrick Clark
Jon. Stewart
James M Cormack
William Gallt
William Stalender
William Dickey
John Thompson
Elise Dickey
David Houston
John Clark
Joⁿ Senter
Samuel Thomson
Andrew Thomson

Charles Melen
David M Calester
James M Calester
William M Calester
Jon Craige
James M Keen
Samuel M Keen
Samuel Senter
Charles M Cay
James Anderson
Edward Aiken
Samuel Dickey
Jonathan Aiken
James Tagert
George Adeson
William Anderson
James Anderson
William Mack
William Ayers
John Mack
Ase Stephens
William Alexander

Thanks to the Legislature for an Act relating to taverns.
To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives.

We the Subscribers Free Holders & Inhabitants in Londonderry & Province afore said Humbly beg leave to Return our sincere & Hearty Thanks for the Late Gracious Act in which it is Stipulated that Londonderry aforesaid shall have no more Than three Taverns & Two Retailers for the present and four ensuing years & we had rather the number was diminished than Increased.

Londonderry Sept^r 26th Annoque Domini 1758.

Matthew Thornton
 William Wallace
 William Cox
 Charles Cox
 John M^o Artney
 William Cochran
 John Cochran
 Petter Cochran
 Robert Cochran
 Vincan Cochran
 Jon Wallace
 Nathaniel Aiken
 Hug. Young
 Randel Alexander
 James Anderson
 David Anderson
 Samuel Moore
 Alex^r M^o Nutt
 Thomas Grierr
 John Durham
 Robert Moore
 John Hopkin
 Thomas Wilson
 James Willson
 James Willson
 Mo^s Barnett
 James Aiken
 Samuell Miller
 John Barnett
 Robert Barnett
 Samuel Allison
 Sam^l Allison Jr
 David Steel
 Thomas Creage
 David Craige
 Samuel Morrison

Mathew Taylor
 John Hogg
 John Mitchel
 Samuel Rankin
 James Paul
 Will^m Rankin
 John Steel
 Samuel Steel
 Jn^o Wear
 John M^o Keen
 Ephraim Marsh
 James Thomson
 Hugh Thomson
 William Humphre
 William Orr
 John Moor
 Hugh Mungomery
 David Mountgomery
 Robert Morrison
 Robert Macmurphy
 Sam^l Houston
 James Houston
 Daniel Leslie
 Robert Patterson
 Will^m Eayrs
 John Moor
 Robert Moor
 James Caldwell
 Patrick Douglass
 Alex^r Renken
 Daniel M^o Duffie
 Robert Adams
 Ja^s M^o Gregore
 John Taylor
 William Taylor

Petition of Inhabitants of Londonderry, 1759, for discontinuance of a highway.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Conven'd.

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Londonderry & Province afores^d Humbly Shews,

That in or about the year 1746 the Selectmen of Londonderry afores^d Laid out a Highway Lengthways thro the land belonging to one Joseph Boyes of the Town & Province aforesaid which Lands is the farm on which the said Boyes then did & now dwells which Highway is within eight or nine rods of

the Line of said Farm the whole or near the whole length, & In Oct^r 13th 1748. The selectmen of Londonderry afor's^d at the request of s^t Boyes Laid out a Highway on the same Tract of Land the whole Length of the afores^d line & the Highway Laid out on the line in all respects accommodates the Publick as well, & said Boyes much better then the first as may appear by the Plan of both herewith Exhibited & there is little or no work Dun on the first road.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that the first Laid out Highway may be Disannulled; & the latter established or otherwise as in your great Wisdom you think best & your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Londonderry Oct^r 21st A D. 1759.

Samuel Barr.	Willm Duncan
John Cochran	Samuel Renkin
William Duncan	Samll Willson
Joseph Hogg	James Wallace
James Aiken	John Pinkertown
Thomas Hylands	David Steel
John Reid	Patrick Dugles
John Duncan	Thos. Barnett
John Duncan	John Holmes
James Cochran	Saml Miller
Neill Taggart	Ninian Cochran
John Taggart	Willm Rogers
Joseph Cochran	Arthur Boyd
Samuel Moore	Robt McNeill
John Aiken	John Humphry
Jon Wallace	Samll Houston
Andr Todd	Daniel McNeill
James Todd	James Blair
Robert Logan	Arthur Archibald
John Crombie, Jr	James Gillmor
John Crombie	Benjamin Wilson
Robt Clark	James Adams
Will. Clark	Robert Adams
Tho. Willson	James MacGregore
James Ramsey	James Adams, Jr
Hugh Ramsey	Jonathan Adams
John Ramsey	Mathew Reid
Samuel Fisher	David Montgomery
James Anderson	John Moor
Edward Akin	Willm Rogers
William Anderson	John Hylands
John Clarke	Moses Watt
Nathaniel Aiken	James Nesmith
James Aiken	John Moor
James Steel	William Moores
John Wallace	James Boyes
William Eayrs	Samuel Boyes
James Eayrs	Ebenezer Coston
John Wallace	Adam Dickey
Willm Ranken	John Dickey
Joseph Scobey	Abram Morrison

John Morrison
 William Make
 George Duncan
 John Duncan
 John Barnett
 Robert Barnett
 John Barnett Jr.
 James Rogers
 John Bell
 James Campbell
 James Taggart
 Thomas Taggart
 Willm Wallace
 Thomas Gregg
 Samuel Gregg
 John Patten
 David Anderson
 James Miltemoer
 John MacClorg
 Willm Miltemoer
 Mehen Clark
 Thos. Morison
 Robt Clendinin
 Samuel Steel

John Mitchel, Jr
 Hugh Jemeson
 Gabriel Barr
 Jno Wear
 Thomas Wallace
 James Wallace
 James Doacke
 John Doacke
 Capt John Mitchel
 John Mack
 Robert Mack
 Samuel Dickey
 Adam Dickey
 Edward Aiken
 James Ewips
 Robert Parkson
 Samll Alison
 Saml Alison, Jr
 James Wilson
 Robert Craig
 Hugh Young
 John Gregg
 James Gregg

In Council Jan 10th 1760

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House.
 Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 11th 1760. This
 New Hamps } petition being read, Ordered That the petitioners be heard
 thereon the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly
 next after the first day of March next & that the petitioners at there
 own cost and charge cause James Murrow mentioned In said petition to
 be Served with a copy thereof, and this order of Court Likewise that
 they cause the substance of this petition & this order of court thereon
 to be advertised In the New Hamps^r Gazette, three weeks successively,
 that the said Murrow or any other persons whome it may concern may
 appear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should
 not be granted

A. Clarkson, Clerk

In Council Jan. 11th 1760.

Read & Concured.

Theod. Atkinson, Secry

Province of } In the House of Representatives March 27th 1760.
 New Hamp^r }

The partys to the within Petition being fully heard thereon & it ap-
 pearing a reasonable Request, therefore Voted That the prayer thereof
 be granted & that the said Boyes have leave to bring in a bill accord-
 ingly.

Peter Gilman speaker, Pro Tem

In Council Eod^m Die,

Read & Concured.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for a Law regulating fishing.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire: The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd.

The petition of the Subscribers a committee chosen at a Legal Town meeting Holden in Londonderry & Province afore's^d & others Inhabitants of Neighbouring Towns Humbly Shews,

That the Petitioners apprehend the Publick Interest makes it necessary To make a Law to regulate the following Articles viz: First where as in Merrymac river in the Town of Derryfield & Province afore s^d there is certain rocks Known by the name of Amuskeeg Falls at which place every Spring there is great number of Salmon & Shad fish which we believe every Inhabitant in the Province afore s^d has an equal right to, But particular men Takes what they call possession of all the Convenient places to catch said fish & either by themselves or agents prevents all others from catching & those possession men sells at what prices & when & to whom they please which makes Disturbances & Disorders Too many to be here enumerated.

Secondly The rivers & Brooks That emtys into Merrymac river are so filled with Mills & Dams that the passage of the fish is Intirely obstructed & the Inhabitants especially the poorer sort greatly Injured.

Thirdly, Fishing every day with scenes in Merry-Mac river prevents the Increase & in time may Turn the corse of the fish from the river: wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray,

First That every Inhabitant in the Province afore s^d if they please to go to the above s^d falls may fish their Turn & enjoy their right peaceably.

Secondly, That every Impediment on any river or Brook as above s^d may be removed at the expence of the Builders of s^d Impediment so that the fish may have free corse to the heads of s^d rivers & Brooks.

Thirdly, That no persons be allowed to fish more than three days in the week with Sienes in Merrymac river within the Province afore s^d In case Massachusetts Bay makes the same Law or Otherwise In any or all the Above's^d Articles as in your Great Wisdom you Judge most for the Publick Good & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

AND ^r TODD	} Committee
SAMUEL BARR	
MATTHEW THORNTON	

Londonderry December
22^d A D. 1759.

Chester.

Eben^r Flagg
John Webster

Sam^l Emerson
Samuel Hills.

Bedford.

Francis Barnet
John Little
John Wallace
James Little
William Holms
William Barnett
Hugh Riddle
Matthew Little

John Quig
James Lyons
John M^cAllester
James Patterson
James Kennedy
Robert Walker
John Bell Jr
Samuel Patten.

Windham.

William Smiley }
John Davidson } Selectmen
Joseph Park }

In Council Jan. 10th 1760.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
Theodore Atkinson Secry.

Province of } In the house of Representatives, Jan 11th 1760. Or-
New Hampshire } dered That the petitioners be heard thereon the sec-
ond day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next
after the first Day of March next & that they cause the Substance of
this petition & this order of court to be advertised In the New Hamps^r
Gazette three weeks successively that those persons whom it may Con-
cern may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof
should not be Grant'd

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council Jan. 11, 1760.

read & Concurr'd.

Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Province of } In the house of Representatives May 16th 1760 This
New Hampshire } petition being read the parties appeared by them-
selves & their attorneys & after being fully heard
thereon, Resolved, That the prayer thereof be so far granted as that
no person shall be on the rocks at Ammuskeege fall from Sunsett Sat-
urday evening untill Monday next at noon—one evidence to convict
them before a justice of peace & his determination to be final that all
obstructions on the rivers & brooks therein mentioned be so far Re-
moved that the fish may have free course to the heads thereof that no
sceins be used In said River only on Monday, Wednesday & Fryday, &
further Resolved that no manner of Acts or Instruments shall be used
to destroy take or stop any of the young Salmon or Shad In said Rivers
or Brooks on the penaltys in a bill for that purpose to be prepared by
the petitioners accordingly

A. Clarkson, clerk

In Council, Eod^m Die,

read & Concurr'd

Theod. Atkinson, Secry.

Petition relating to fish in Merrimack river.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr
 New Hamp. } Governor &c And to the Honourable his Maj-
 estys Council and House of Representatives
 for said Province.

The petition of us the Subscribers being Inhabitants of Londonderry, Chester, Derryfield, Bedford, Goffestown, Starkstown, Pembroke, Pennykook &c who are commonly supplied with Fish catched at the Falls in Merrimack River Most Humbly sheweth

That whereas there hath been a Petition prefer'd to this Honourable Court to Restraine the fishing at the Falls in said River three days in each week as the fishing with Seanes is Restrained by an act lately passed In Answer to said petition we pray that the fishing at the Falls in said River may not be restrained in any measure but that the same may remain free as it hath been hitherto, we being of opinion that the fishing with scoop or dip nets does not in any measure hurt or hinder the Increase of fish so but that they may be always plenty as they have ever been untill the fishing with Seanes as long Experience Sufficently Evidences for the fish in said River were always observed to Decrease as the number of seanes Increased and provided nothing might be suffered to hinder or destroy the Fry or young-fish coming down the River Provided also that the catching Salmon from and after the first of July to the end of the year were wholly stoped and that two or more persons be chosen and Sworn in each town joynng on the River annually to see that the Laws Relating to fishing be duly observed not only within the towns where they are chose Respectively but any where on said River and the lesser Rivers that Run into the same—Wherefore your petitioners pray that their said fishing at the Falls may not be Restrained and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

July 13th 1764.

Ebenezer Coston

Thomas Wallace

his

Matthew X McDuffee

mark

William Whites Jr

John Clagston

Robt McNight

John Kidder

William Holms

Joseph Houston

Thomas Murrrough

James Patterson

John Dinsnoor

John Bell

Robert Walker

Francis Barnet

Ebenezer Johnson

Jas Caldwell

Math Little

John Moor

John Moor Jr.

James Aiken

David ?

Mathw Patten

James Vose

Joseph McCartney

William Barnet

Richard McAllster

Samill Richards

Benj. Smith
James Moore
William Nutt
Robert Gillmore
Ebenezer Hackett
Enoch Page
Daniel Moor
David Moor
Thos McLaughlin
Silas Walker
Benjamin Davis

William McDougall
Joseph Thomas
Robert Mack
Jno Little
his
Alexr X Orr
mark
James Smith
Nathanel Petterson
David McCleary
Joshua Martin

Pr Order,

JAMES CALDWELL.

Thomas Coffrin
Andrew Bunten
John Coffin
William Cochran
Samuel Galt
James Gay
James Coffrin Jr
Stephen Swett
John McDaniel
David McAlaster
Robert McDaniel
Willeam Merten
James Merten
James Mor
James Cochran Jr
James Cochran
Joseph Cochran
William Snow
Hubard Steand
James Lukes
Daniel Lukes
James Russ
Gain Hemphil
James Moor
Samuel Connor
Jacob Fowler
Timothy Knox
Thomas Welch
Starlen Sargent
John Clark
Benja Noyes
William Brown
Patrick Galt
Benjamin Ginkes
Samuel Smith
Isaac Whit
Nemiah Dene!
Thomas Sanckler
Jacob Gay
Daniel Frezer
Daniel Knox
Joseph Brown
Samuel Mcfee
Samuel Brown

Asa Foster
Timo Clement
Isaac George
Archd McDuffie
Henry Stevens
Willm Robertson
Daniel Merten
James McCaley
John Stark
Samuel Stark
Alexander McCaley
Edward Bery
John Ray
Georg Whell
John Lenand
John Sinsclir
John Fife
James Fife
John Fife, Jr
Willm Fife
Ephraim Blunt
David Conner
James Man
Samuel Man
S. Jonathan
John McConnel
Thomas McConnal
William Moor
James Moor
Andrew McAlaster
James Hoobard
James Garven
John White
Abraham Merrel
Samuel Alexander
John Keneday
Robt Keneday
Thomas Merrel
John Merrel Jr
Thos. Robertson
Joseph Baker
Willm Robertson
Andw Robertson
Ebenezer Frie

Levi Carter
 Joseph Baker Jr
 John Moor
 Joshua Tyler
 Lovewell Baker
 Thomas Baker
 Steven McConell
 Samuel McConell
 Patrick Garven
 John Moor Jr
 Robert Moor
 James Cunningham
 Frances Dogan
 Moses Conell
 Willm Knox
 Willm Man
 Willm Moor
 Daniel Moor
 Francis McCay
 Moses Garven
 Samul Garven
 John Garven
 Bartholemy Stephans
 John Man
 John Man Jr
 Thomas Kenady
 Robert Kenady
 Joseph Kenady
 Joseph Kenady Jr
 George Adeson
 Samuel Kennady
 Paul Burbeen
 Samll Noyes
 John McNeal
 John Taggart
 John McCurdy
 Aron Wells
 Mathw Flood
 Jacob Caley
 Jeremiah Brown
 Daniel Merten
 Asa Pudney
 Joseph Pudney
 David Pope
 John Pudney
 Benja Hedly
 David Rowel
 Daniel Macurdy
 Moses Wells
 Joseph Ordway
 Elezer Wells
 John Ardway
 Job Rowel
 Andrew Stone
 John Millir
 Samuel Rodgers
 Mark Flood

Salvenis Emery
 John Mearill
 Caleb Emery
 Hendre Pudne
 Ebenezer Merten
 Elezer Emerson
 Francis Farr
 Ephraim Foster
 Joseph Rodgers
 Antonie Emanuel
 Randal Alexander
 Robt Miler
 James Macurdy
 Willm Stark
 Thomas Jemeson
 Alexr Jemeson
 John Copey ?
 Alexr Walker
 Job. Kider
 Benj. Norris
 Richd Bartlet
 Asa Foster
 Moses McConnal
 Willm Folinton
 Sia Alen
 Moses Conner
 Samuel Welch
 Jonathan Merten
 Elesr Alen
 Punphret Whithous
 Solomon Whithous
 Daniel Eacens
 Andrew Smith
 Thomas Sinklir
 Jeremiah Morgan
 Charles McCoy
 Francis McCuchran
 Daved Conner
 David Conner, Jr
 John Coffran, Jr
 Thomas Smith
 Alexander McClintok
 Hugh Crombie
 John Heren
 Jeames Horner
 Daniel McNeal
 William Pirham
 William Pirham jun
 Eleazer Robbins
 John Pirham
 Micheal McClinto
 Nathanel Blasdell
 John Sargent
 Thomas Flagg
 Moses Underhill
 Hugh McAfee
 David White

Samuel Aiken
 William Aiken
 James Aiken
 David Watherspoons
 Robert Craig
 Robert McKinley
 Thomas Dinsmoor
 Andrew Crag
 James Croset
 Benja Croset
 Peter Aiken
 William McClinto
 Ephraim Robbins
 Samuel Boyd
 Ephraim Robbins
 Adam Willson
 Robert Calf
 John Paton
 William White
 Moses Sergeant
 John Miles
 Robt Paton
 Jesse McFarland
 John Brown
 Joseph Calfe
 Thomas Coburn
 Nathaniel Boyd
 John McClinto
 Jonathan Chamberling, Jr
 Jonathan Chamberling
 Georg Person
 Willm Hall
 Alexander Watherspoon
 Thomas Karr Jr
 George Duncan
 John Duncan
 James Todd
 Isack Bruster
 James Donaldson
 Josiah Duncan
 Alexander Todd
 James Rodgers
 John Cate
 Joseph Oughterson
 Thomas Newman
 Nathanel Heriman
 James Campbell
 Eleazer Coston
 John Cochran
 James Campbell Jr
 Parich Richeson
 John Bell
 Caleb Dolton

John Rodgers
 Samuel Bell
 Robert McChuer
 Robert Davison
 Joseph Bell
 Thomas Milar
 James Peirs
 James McGregore
 Henry Blaisdell
 Robert Moreson
 James Aiken
 Robert Moor
 William Belley ?
 Samuel Cochran
 Robert Willson
 William Moor
 Robert Macmurphy
 William Eayrs
 John Oughterson
 James Gregg
 William Gregg
 Benja Nesmith
 Nathl Aiken
 Robert Hunter
 Joseph Gregg
 William Boyd
 Robert Rogers
 John Willson
 James Oughterson
 Jonathan Merel
 Abram Merel
 James Miltmbr
 David Mountgumery
 Isack Cochran
 John Craig
 Robert Craig
 John Senter
 Moses Senter
 James Gregg
 John Thompson
 Samuel Moor
 Samuel Senter
 David Anderson
 David Campbell
 Samuel Renkin
 John Gregg
 John Night
 James Cochran
 John Mack
 William Anderson
 Steven Coburn
 Steven Jonston

Petition about irregular proceedings in town meeting.

To the honourable the Representatives of the province of New Hampshire in New England in General Assembly to be Conven'd May y^e twenty Second A D. 1771

The humble petition of the Subscribers Freeholders of Londonderry and Windham of the province aforesaid Sheweth,

That your Petitioners are a Great part if not the Majority of the Qualified Voters of said Londonderry and Windham That your petitioners think they can make it evidently appear that in the choice of a Representative Last Tuesday they were Treated by the Moderator of said meeting and his abettors with manifest and Glaring partiality, that persons were admitted by the Governing Party in said Meeting to Vote who cou^d or wou^d Not Give sufficient Evidence of their Being Qualified as the Law Directs, That altho' an express Law of the province Provides in case any dispute shou^d arise upon a written Vote a Poll if demanded shou^d be the final Decision and altho the Moderator did Promise that said poll should Take place in case it was Demanded and in consequence of said Promise a Number did forbear Voteing by a written vote as Thinking it wou^d Be soon enough when it came to the poll yet when a dispute did arise upon the determination by the written Vote though the Moderator was call'd upon immediately and Repeatedly by a great number of the members of the meeting agreeable to his promise and to the Law to Bring the matter to a final decision By poll yet he did in an arbitrary and dispotic manner Refuse the same.

May it therefore Please your honours to consider and enquire in to the case from w^{ch} we think it will evidently appear that the matter was not fairly carried and to Give order that Londonderry and Windham may have another meeting in order to have a fair choice and your Petitioners shall ever pray &c &c

Sign^d at Londonderry May y^e 16th 1771.

Jno Wiewar
Robert Hopkins
James Adams
James Taggart
James McGregore
John Hunter
Daneal Hunter
John Aiken
John Bell
Thomas Taggart
Robert Adams
John Barnett
James McKeen
John Dinsmoor
Robt McNeill
Thos Craige

Jonathan Adams
Samll Houston
Willm Duncan
John Taylor
James MacMurphy
George Duncan, Jr
Adam Taylor
James Paul
John Hopkins
John Nesmith
Robt Hopkins
Saml Morison
William Thom
Willm Cunningham
John Waddell
William Dinsmoor

Robert Dinsmoor
 John Cochran
 James Cochran
 John Tuft
 James Jameson
 Thomas Jameson
 Isaac Cochran
 Robert Park
 Alexr Park
 Jno Morison
 James Hopkins
 Jno Stewart
 Charles Anis
 Gain Armour
 Andrew Armour
 Joseph Smith
 Robert Smith
 James Galt
 John Cochran Jr
 John Wilson, Jr
 Alexr Wilson
 John Kile
 William Gregg, Jr.
 Willm Gregg
 Hugh Graham
 Hugh Graham jun.
 James Anderson, Jr
 John Clark
 John Armstrong
 John Armstrong, Jr
 David Armstrong
 Saml Wilson
 Robert Hemphill
 Nathl Hemphill
 Nathl Hemphill jun.
 George Gregg
 Samuel Campbell
 Samuel McAdams
 Andrew Todd
 Isaac Brewster
 Thomas Smith
 Hugh Smith
 John Smith
 John Campbell
 James Adams
 Nathl Aiken
 David Campbell
 John Montgomery
 John Creeag
 Robert Mack
 James Gregg
 John Woodburn
 James Anderson
 John Pinkerton
 Archibld McMurphy
 Robert Bird
 James Campbell

Saml Graham
 Saml Fisher
 David Oughterson
 Joseph Oughterson
 James Anderson 3d
 Wm Anderson
 John Duncan 3d
 Saml Anderson
 Robt Anderson
 Jno Anderson
 Moses Graham
 James Anderson
 Saml Anderson Jr
 John Clark
 John Scobey
 David Pinkerton
 Robt Wallace
 Daniel McAfee
 Jona Gilmore
 Robt Morrison
 Robt Hunter
 Robt Archibald
 Robt McMurphy
 Richd Duston
 Jno Chase
 Saml Eley
 Saml Taylor
 Wm Orr
 Jno Carr
 Robt McFerland
 Benole Plumor
 Dant Cheney
 Abra Page
 Stephen Johnson
 Charles Sargent
 Wm Taylor
 Simeon Morrell
 Davd Taylor
 Alexandr Houston
 Jno Wallace
 Jno Boyd
 Isaac Tucker
 Robt Smith
 Saml Rankin
 Wm Rankin
 Arthur Archibald
 Davd Clandinin
 James Wilson
 Jno Hopkins, Jr
 Saml Wilson, Jr
 Geo Clark
 Geo Wilson
 Saml Clarke
 Jno Caldwell
 James Wilson, Jr
 Wm Miltmer
 James Nesmith tertius

Jno Annis
 Robt Annis
 Saml Marsh
 Thos Clark
 Matthew Clarke
 David Anderson
 James Miltemore
 Benja Gregg
 Jno Gregg
 James Gregg, Jr
 Isaac Cochran
 Thos Anderson
 Wm Boyd
 James McCormick
 David Paul
 Jno McKene, Jr
 Geo. Read
 Jno McKene
 Robt McKene
 Jno Dunkin
 Jno Dunkin, Jr
 Robt Wilson
 Joseph Bell
 Jno Dickey
 Matthew Dickey
 Adam Dickay
 James Donaldson
 Robert Barnett
 James Nesmith
 Jno Barnett
 Geo. Dunkin
 James Nesmith, Jr
 Jacob Chase
 Hugh Moor
 Joseph Ayers
 Robt McClure
 Tho. McClure
 Timo Ayer
 Wm Smith
 Abra Dunkin
 Jno Wiar
 Robt Hopkins
 James Adams, Jr
 James Taggart
 James McGregor
 Jno Hunter
 Jno Aiken
 Jno Dinsmore
 Jno Bell
 Thos Taggart
 Robt Adams
 Jno Barnett
 James McKene

Robt McNeal
 Thos Craig
 Jona Adams
 Saml Houston
 Wm Dunkin
 Jno Taylor
 James McMurphy
 Geo Dunken Jr
 Adam Taylor
 James Paul
 Jno Hopkins
 Jno Nesmith
 Robt Hopkins, Jr
 Saml Morrison
 Wm Thorn
 Wm Cunningham
 Jno Waddell
 Wm Dinsmore
 Robt Dinsmore
 Jno Cochran
 Jno Tuft
 James Jameson
 Thos Jameson
 Isaac Cochran, Jr
 Robt Park
 Alexr Park
 Jno Morrison
 David Hopkins
 Jno Stuart
 Charles Annis
 Andrew Armour
 Gain Armor
 Joseph Smith
 Robt Smith, Jr
 James Galt
 John Cochran
 John Wilson, Jr
 Alexr Wilson
 Jno Keille
 Wm Gregg
 Wm Gregg, Jr
 Hugh Graham, Jr
 Hugh Graham
 James Anderson 3d
 Jao Armstrong
 Jno Armstrong, Jr.
 Saml Wilson
 Robert Hemphill
 Nathl Hemphill
 Nath Hemphill, Jr
 George Gregg
 Samuel Campbell
 Saml McAdams

[Some of the above names appear to be repeated. Ed.]

Province of } December 13th 1771 In the house of Representa-
 New Hampshire } tives upon reading the petition within written, Voted,
 Rockingham } that the petitioners at their own cost Serve the select
 men of Londonderry & Matthew Thornton Esq who
 was the moderator of the meeting therein mentioned with a copy of said
 petition and order of the house thereon by Reading the same to them
 Respectively or leaving a copy at their Respective dwelling houses or
 place of abode that they may be heard thereon to shew cause if any they
 have why the prayer thereof should not be granted, on thursday the
 26th Day of December Instant at Portsm^a aforesaid if the General as-
 sembly be then sitting & if not then on the third day of the Assembly
 next sitting after the said 26th of December.

William Parker, Clerk Ass^m

Jan^y 1, on the hearing dismiss.

Petition of Londonderry West Parish.

To his Excell^y John Wentworth Esq. Cap^t Gen^l and Gov^r in
 Chief in & over his Majestys province of New Hampshire,
 And to the honourable his Majestys Council and house of
 Representatives; In General Court assembled.

The humble memorial and Petition of the western Parish in
 Londonderry and Province aforesaid Sheweth

That in the year 1739 your petitioners obtained an Act of
 the Legislature of this province setting off by certain bounds
 therein specified a parish in the Western side of Londonderry.
 That a number of people in each Parish, unwilling to join
 with or be of the Parish in which they were situated and
 pleading Conscience & Liberty it was provided in said Act that
 fourty Familys within the eastern side of the Town should
 have Liberty to Incorporate with and be of the western par-
 ish, and that an equal number within the Bounds of the western
 Parish should have the same liberty. That by the means of
 these vicissitudes to which in a long space of Time humane
 Affairs are liable some of the exempted fourty Familys or their
 posterity have by the transferring of property come to be liable
 (as is alledged by some) to pay those ministers to whom they
 never stood in any special Relation whose ministry they can-
 not in conscience attend; and who have the very same Plea
 with the mentioned fourty Familys exempted in the parish act
 as above said, That altho your petitioners have never taken
 any advantage of the circumstances of such Persons as judging
 that to do so would be contrary to the Principle of Liberty on
 which the above mentioned exemption in the parish Act is found-
 ed; yet the Eastern Parish cannot say so; they have (especially
 of late) shewed a great avidity to avail themselves of such ad-
 vantages. They have rated a considerable number and made
 distress upon some who always belonged to the Parish of your

Petitioners, some of those rated are of the exempted fourty Familys and have been born under the present Ministry inso-much that the Letter of the Parish Act is made use of by our Neighbours in such a sense as to destroy the true spirit and Intention of the said act, and also to rob people of the liberty granted in religiois matters by a gracious King and by the laws of this province.

That there is often a wider difference between Presbyterians and Presbyterians than there is between Presbyterians and Congregationals or between Presbyterians and Episcopals as such—Two persons may both of them be nomenally Presbyterians and yet may differ in some of the most important Doctrines of Religion whereas Presbyterians and Congregationals or Presbyterians and Episcopals as such differ only in things of a comparatively lesser Nature. That if the Law provides for people in the latter of these Cases where the ground of dissent is Lesser, much more ought it to provide in the former case where the ground of dissent is greater.

That as the two congregations in Londonderry are nearly Equal: As the people of the two Societys are living promiscuous all over the Town: as the meeting houses are about equally well situated for the accommodation of the Town in general And Finally as the difference in religious matters between the two societys is of long standing and in the Judg^t of your petitioners wide and of great Importance, your petitioners are humbly of opinion that the Thing and the only Thing that will Establish Peace and good Neighbourhood between the two societys and prevent expensive Prosecutions in the Executive courts will be an act of Assembly appointing that every person in Londonderry should support the Gospel in that Congregⁿ only where he constantly & conscienciously attends—such an act (your peti^{rs} are fully persuaded) as it is most equitable in it self so it will be the most likely means to calm the spirits of people many of whom are at present much exasperated by apprehended Imposition This will be the most likely to keep the two societys nearly upon a levell; And to conclude this will make every Individual in the Town a volunteer in the support of the Gospel

May it therefore please your Excell^y & Hon^{rs} to take this weighty affair which so nearly concerns the peace and happiness of this large town under your wise and impartial Consideration: And under proper limitations to enact that every person shall be obliged to support the Gospel in that Congrⁿ only to which he conscienciously adheres: and where he ordinarily attends, and your peti^{rs} shall ever pray.

Signed at Lon^{dy} this 15th day of May 1773.

John Hunter	} Committee
John M ^r Keen	
Sam ^l Fisher	
James Paul	
George Duncan Jr	
James M Gregore	
Will ^m Duncan	

Province of) In the House of Representatives May 18th 1773, upon
New Hamp) reading this petition, Voted that the petitioners Serve the
selectmen or assessors of the first parish or as it is called
in this petition the Eastern parish with a copy of this Petition in this
manner: by reading the same to the majority & leaving the copy with
one of them and that the parties may be heard thereon on the third
day of the sitting of the general assembly after the 15th day of June
either by prorogation or adjournment if either should happen in the
mean time: sent up

William Parker, Cler.

In Council Eodem die
Read and concurr'd

Geo. King, D. Secry

Petition of Inhabitants of Londonderry, 1773.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt General Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & vice admiral of the same & The Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in general Assembly Convened.

The subscribers inhabitants in the East & West Parishes in Londonderry in s^t Province humbly shews, That in the year A. D. 1739. said Londonderry, by an act of the Legislature of s^t Province was divided into two grants called the East & west Parishes, with liberty for a number not exceeding forty Families in Each Parrish to Poll to the other the forty families in the east that Poll'd to the west by the assistance of those in the west that lived near the East line of said Parrish obtained a vote to Build & did build a meeting house for said Parrish near the east line thereof when s^d Parish then had a meeting house near the center newly Built & is now Rotten for want of use as the number of Inhabitants in the west Parrish increase the forty families in the East that Polled to the West multiply & now are near (if not above) seventy families & by the abovesaid assistance have from the time of passing s^d act to this day obliged all the rest of s^d West Parish to travil to the meeting house near the east line except a few days in great condescention they lately have had preaching in a third New meeting House Built by said West Parrish near the center which must suffer the fate of their first in case their minis-

ter continues to live near the center of the east Parrish & all that Proceed from the forty families in the east that Poll'd to the west be the number ever so great belong to & vote with the west Parrish as they yet have done which two causes in our opinion begun the flam of contention in Londonderry & as they have they will keep it alive while they continue when we are Distinct Parrishes without Pollers & not till then Londonderry may reasonably expect peace take the cause & the effect will cease: relative to a petition lately Exhibited to your Excellency & Honours by a committee from the West Parish & now under your consideration Shewing first the great difference between Presbyterians & Presbyterians: 2^{dly} the promiscuous situation of the Parishioners of each Parrish. 3^{ly} the great difference in opinion between the people of the two Parrishes in the Important Doctrines of the Gospel. 4^{ly} that The meeting Houses are Equally well situated to accommodate the people of each Parrish; Finally praying for what they call by the name of liberty for each Individual to joine where he or they Please & pay where they joine.

We answer first as to the great difference between Presbyterians & Presbyterians, we take it to be a Theological Distinction when there is no difference; that there is a wide difference between Real & nominal Presbyterians we are very sensible & leave it to the Impartial which they will call the first.

Secondly that the Parishioners are Promiscuously situated is true which is owing to the forty pollers & their offspring: 3^d if there is that great difference in opinion set forth in said petition between the People of the two parrishes respecting the Important doctrines of the Gospel it must be in the minds only or some private disputes between enthusiasticks unless they call disputes about the Irregular conduct of some members of Presbyterys Important Doctrines of the gospel.

4^{thly} If by the Meeting Houses in each Parrish being equally well situated to accommodate the inhabitants they mean the new meeting House in the East Parrish and the last built meeting House in the west it is true But if they mean the meeting house in the west Parrish near the east line where the Publick Worship now is & has been ever since they were a Parrish (Except as above excepted) we leave it to your Excellency & Honours how well the inhabitants of the west Parrish are accommodated & what Justice is done them in General; Finally the Liberty prayed for in said petition if granted we humbly apprehend will be productive of greater evils than the Polling act Because in that case in all future time that Parrish which has the most Popular Preacher who is not the wisest man the best scholar nor the best christian will leave

the other Parish unable to support the Gospel & we dont desire to give or take such unjust advantage it is evident that every Individual of mankind in our present state & circumstances are not to be free in every respect. Because that would destroy the publick good. In all Bodys Politick Individuals give up part of their Liberty & Properties to the Publick to secure the remainder. In all societies Religious civil or Political Individuals are to enjoy private liberty & property as far as is consistant with the good of the community of which they are a part & no further, from which it is evident that whatsoever liberty one of any number desire or pray for inconsistent with the good of the community of which they are a part, should be refused

And as the prayer of their Petition is evidently calculated to destroy the future peace and good order of both the above s^d Parrishes in Londonderry, Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray first that the prayers of said Petition may not be granted. 2^d that the present dividing line between the two Parrishes in said Londonderry may be examined by a committee appointed by your Excellency & honours and if Just, established & if not that s^d committee may fix it so as to doe Equal Justice to both Parrishes.

And that an act may be made that will oblige Every Individual Presbyterian in all future time to pay his proportion according to law of the Ministers Salary in the Parrish where he dwells & Joine & Worship where he or they please which we believe would produce peace & good agreement between the Inhabitants of both Parrishes in general or reduce the forty pollers to their primitive number & fix it so that they never shall exceed that number & impower the west Parish to meet for Publick worship where it will be most Just & Convenient for the Inhabitants of s^d Parish for the future the latter will better our circumstances, the first will cause our distructions.

But we humbly submit all to your Excellency & Honours & as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Matthew Thornton
Samuel Anderson
Samuel Anderson Jr
James Eayrs

James Ramsey
James Ramsey
William Ramsey

Londonderry May 27, A D. 1773.

In Council Jan. 13, 1774.

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
Geo. King, D. Secry.

Agreement of Committees.

Whereas there is a Petition Exhibited to His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governour & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire & The Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd signed by a committee appointed by the New parish in Londonderry in said Province praying for the Redress of Certain greevances mentioned in said petition, It is mutually agreed Between s^d Committee & a committee from the old or first Parish in said Londonderry as follows, viz :

First that all the Rev'd M^r David M Gregors Hearers that are rated by s^d old Parish shall be erased out of their list for the last tax & all former taxes not already paid.

2nd That the ministers Salary (viz Eighty pounds Each pr annum) shall be raised on the whole Inhabitants of Both Parishes that are obliged by law to pay to either of s^d ministers by Pole & estate & each Parish shall Levie the money of their respective hearers by their own collectors.

3rd That this agreement shall continue between s^d parishes untill the death or incapacity of the Rev^d Mr David M'Gregore or the Rev^d Mr William Davidson or for the space of three years from this date.

Dated at Portsmouth. Jan. 15th A. D. 1774.

Signed pr

Matthew Thornton	} Committee for the old parish
Samuel Barr	
Rob ^t Clark	
James MacGregore	} Committee for the new parish
George Duncan Jr	
Will ^m Duncan	
Samuel Fisher	
James Paul	

 LYME.

[Lyme was granted by charter, July 8, 1761. Settlements began in May, 1764, by emigrants from Connecticut. Ed.]

Petition for a ferry.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq.
New Hampshire } Captain General and Commander in
chief in and over his Majestys Province
of New Hampshire In Council.

The petition of Ebenezer Green of Thetford in the County

of Gloucester in the Province of New York, humbly sheweth, That there never has been any ferry by law established across Connecticut River in Lime in the County of Grafton & that of necessity for the Benefit of Travellers and others, your petitioner has been at Considerable Cost and Trouble in providing Boats & for the Benefit of Travel and that it will much serve the Publick to have a ferry established in said Lime at or near the place where your Petitioner has erected a House for the purpose of Calcining Potash, whereupon your petitioner humbly prays your Excellency to grant him the Privilege of a ferry at s^t Place under usual Restrictions and Regulations and as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

EBEN^r GREEN.

Portsmouth May 27, 1772.

Petition for a half-shire Town.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Honorable his majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd, Jan^y 1773.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Lime & Orford in y^e county of Grafton by their agents, Alexander Phelps & Israel Morey, humbly sheweth that the number of Families, living south of y^e Town of Haverhill in y^e County of Grafton are in proportion to the number living Northward of said Haverhill as fifteen to one all which except about twenty Families living in Piermont must pass through a corner of Orford in travelling to Haverhill, that no Inhabitant living Southerly of a direct line drawn from the northern most extent of Campton which is proposed to be annexed to said County to the Northmost extent of Orford can travel to Haverhill but by traveling eight miles further than to go to Orford or Lime; that much the greater part of them must travel thirty miles further to go to Haverhill than to Lyme and near twenty further than to go to Orford. That there are now in Lebanon the Southwestmost Town in said County at least fifteen Families more than inhabit in said County Northward of Haverhill, that the Increase of settlers southward of Haverhill has hitherto been and is still likely to be proportionably greater than the Increase of settlers North of said Haverhill as the present Inhabitants below are in Number greater than above. That from the southernmost part of the County it is full fifty miles to Haverhill so that there can never be Room for a new County between Haverhill and the southward extent

of said County, that the northerly & Southerly extent of said county is not less than one Hundred & 40 miles which in regard of extent, is full long for two countys and thereupon your petitioners cannot but suppose s^d County will in future Time be divided into two Countys as soon as the northern part shall be sufficiently inhabited.

That your petitioners humbly conceive it cant be reasonable to alter the place of holding the Courts after it shall be once fixed y^t the expence of building Court house, Prison, ccunty, Books &c must principally be defray'd by the present inhabitants That the good of Dartmouth College which we doubt not is an object of your excellencys & honors concern will much depend on the publick Courts not being held at too great a distance

Whereupon your Petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency and Honors would be pleased in establishing the half-shire Town next Connecticutt River to take into consideration the Reasons and Facts abovementioned which they are ready to evince and enact that either the Town of Lime or the Town of Orford be the place where half the Courts of Records in s^d County of Grafton shall be held and as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

ALEX PHELPS } Agents for
ISRAEL MOREY } Lime & Orford.

Portsmouth Jan. 15th 1773.

Province of }
New Hamps } In Council Jan. 20, 1773.

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
Geo. King D. Secry.

LYNDEBOROUGH.

[Formerly Salem-Canada, was granted by Massachusetts and settled while under that Province. It was chartered by New Hampshire 23^d April 1764. ED.]

Petition for protection against Indians.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governour and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r

The petition of the Inhabitants of Salem-Canada in said Province, Humbly Shews

That your petitioners live in a place Greatly exposed to the Indians and have not men Sufficient for to Defend us, That tho'

there be but few of us yet we have laid out our estates to begin in this place So that we shall be extremely hurt if we must now move off for we have there by the Blessing of God on our labours a fine crop of corn on the ground and tho' we have a Garrison in the Town Built by Order of Maj^r Lovell yet we have no body impowered so much as to set a watch among us nor men to keep it; we would therefore pray your Excellency that we may have some assistance from the Government in sending us some souldiers to Guard and Defend us as in your wisdom you shall think proper. Tho' we are but newly added to this Government yet we pray your Excellency not to disregard us but so to assist us that we may keep our estates and do service for the government hereafter & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

Salem-Canada,

June 26th 1744.

John Cram, Jr
Joseph Cram
Samuell Leman
John Cram
David Stevenson
John Stevenson

John Dale
Jonathan Cram
Ephraim Putnam
Benjamin Cram
Abraham Leman

Grant of Salem-Canada, &c.

Province of } Pursuant to the Power and Authority granted and
New Hamp } vested in me the Subscriber by the prop^{rs} of Land purchased of John Tutton Mason Esq in the province of
New Hampshire at their meeting Regularly called for that purpose.

I do by these presents on the terms and conditions with the reservations herein after Expressed give and grant all the Right title property and possessions of the Prop^{rs} afore's^d according to the following proportions of Interest (viz^t) to Benjamin Lynds Esq. four shares Benjamin Pickman Esq three shares Rob^t Hooper Esq. one share to the Heirs and Assigns of Joseph Sweat Esq. Six shares To Joseph Blaney Esq. two shares, Samuel Wells Esq. ten Shares, Daniel Eppls, jun. Esq. two shares, Major Joshua Hicks two Shares, Benjamin Goodhue three shares, Thomas Fletcher two shares. Joseph Richardson two shares, George Goold two shares, Ephraim Ingalls two shares, and to the following persons viz^t

Joseph Bowdage Esq
Stephen Pullman
Jonathan Bowers
Major John Towle
William Holt
Oliver Fletcher Esq
Mrs Hannah Cobbit
David Stinson
Robert Swan and

Josiah Bowers
the heirs of James Lendall Esq
late deceased
John Bickford
Moses Graves
Timothy Cummings to
Joseph Clough
Daniel Nicholls
Jonathan Peal

to which Seventeen one Share each of in and to a tract of land in the Province of New Hampshire afore's^d containing by Estimation twenty eight Thousand Acres, part thereof Heretofore called Salem Canada

the whole tract Bounded as follows Beginning at the Northeast Corner of a tract of land called Duxbury School Farm and in the line of that Tract or Township called Souhegun West, from thence runing West by the needle one mile two hundred and Eighty rods to the east line of a tract of land called Number two, from thence north by the needle four hundred and ninety eight Rods to the northeast corner of s^d No. two, from thence west by the needle by s^d N^o 2 five miles to a white ash marked the corner of Petersborough Slip and of N^o 2 and from thence west by the needle two hundred and Forty Rods by s^d Peterborough Slip to a Beach tree marked from thence north by the needle six miles & three quarters to a tree marked for the corner of s^d tract from thence East by the needle three miles and one quarter to a tree marked in the western line of New Boston from thence south by that line one mile and an half to the most South westerly corner of New Boston afores^d, from thence east by s^d New Boston line three miles one Hundred and twenty rods to a Black Oak marked still by said New Boston line & run south two miles and an half To a Stump and stones, from thence East One mile and Eighty rods to the North west Corner of that tract called Souhegun west aforesd, from thence South by the line of said Souhegun west four miles one hundred and twenty three rods to the Bounds first mentioned, & to all the Bounds aforesd, lett either of the lines afores^d be more or less, which tract of Land or Township shall from this time be called Lynde Borough the Premises afores^d under the terms & conditions with the Reservation hereafter Express (that is to say) that the grantees afores^d according their respective shares excepting as hereafter excepted have twenty one thousand & thirty Acres part of the afore's^d twenty eight thousand acres as the whole of the grantees part of the premises in the following manner, viz that each of the grantees named in the Schedule hereunto annexed Own and Enjoy the severall and Respective lotts to their names Respectively affixed as part of their shares. That the following severall Lotts (and to be part of the grantees proportion afores^d) be granted as afores^d free from duty settlement or taxes in bringing forward or Compleating the duty as the conditions of this grant to the severall Persons hereafter named as follows, To David Badger the Lott N^o 117, To Francis Densmore the Lott N^o 106 To Bartholomew Jackson Lott N^o 100, To John Shead the Lott N^o 50, To Paul Raymond the Lott N^o 99, Which Lotts contain by Estimation one Hundred and thirty acres each and is part of the second Division formerly laid out in s^d tract. To James Twadle, in the Right formerly Edward Fladre the home lot called 24 East, with an addition Round about it of sixty four acres to compleat the quantity of one hundred and thirty acres. To Deacon Nathaniel Pullman, Peter Martin & George Dealands Heirs to each one Lott to be lay'd out in the undivided lands which three lotts are to contain, One Hundred and thirty acres each and to Benjamin Lynde as assignee to John Dale sen^r the home lott N^o 21, and One hundred and Twenty ——— acres to be layd out in the undivided lands which s^d persons in their capacity as above shall be Intitled to no further part of y^e premises. That out of the grantees proportion there be three shares more granted One for the first settled minister and one for ministry, and one for the schole there forever which said shares shall be and contain the severall and respective lotts entered in the schedule hereunto annexed as their whole & respective Shares & shall be free of duty of settlement and all taxes in performing the Conditions of this grant.

To have and to hold to their Heirs & assigns forever under the following conditions with y^e Reservations here after mentioned, viz

That there be reserved out of said Tract, one Farm of Five Hundred acres at the South westerly Corner of said Tract and also One Hundred

and Fifty acres adjoining on that corner of y^e Township that Bounds on New Boston West Line & One hundred and fifty acres as discribed on y^e plan of said Tract

And that there be further reserv'd to and for y^e use of y^e grantees their Heirs and assigns Free of all charges & Incumbrance of settlement or taxes until improved by the owners or by them sold, Six thousand & six acres and laid out into nineteen Equal Shares at the charge of y^e grantees in y^e following manner, viz. That there be in y^e next best accommodations of y^e undivided Lands three Thousand six Hundred & sixty acres laid out for the grantees aforesaid for Quantity and Quality with y^e Land already laid out in nineteen equal shares as aforesaid and that there shall be next laid out in y^e said undivided lands, so much to each grantee who has not his full proportion, in y^e Lands already laid out, and set in y^e Schedule as shall make their respective shares equal with the rest.

And that the remaining part of the Land reserved for the grantors aforesaid, being two Thousand Four Hundred acres be Divided for Quantity and Quality with the rest of y^e comon Lands into Nineteen Equal shares. And the remainder of y^e comons or undivided Lands to be to and for the use of y^e grantees as they shall order the Divisions thereof. And that where any lands was by the Proprietors claiming under the Massachusetts grant formerly left within any lott for Highways the Owners of such lott shall have said Land thus reserv'd allowing so much as shall be of equal Value out of his part in y^e next division of y^e comons.

That the respective Grantees, Owners of y^e Fifty Shares afores^d and who are not excused from Duty and charge, bring forward and make settlement in the following manner viz. That they lay out y^e s^d Tract or Township and compleat the Division thereof as afore directed at or before y^e 20th Day of November next ensuing and return a plan thereof certified under the Hand of their clerk on oath within two months after such work shall be compleated to y^e clerk of said grantors.

That y^e respective Owners for each respective share make one settlement in the following manner viz. To clear inclose & fit for mowing or plowing Two acres on some one Lott and have a comfortable dwelling House built and fitted for comfortable dwelling in and a Family or some Person resident there at or before the first day of december, one thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty six and to continue Inhabitant or Resident there for Four years then next coming and also for the same four years annually on each of y^e said Lotts, to have Two Acres clear'd Inclosed and fitted as aforesaid. That there be a Meeting House for Publick Worship in said Township within Five years from this Date at such place as shall be agreed on by the proprietors both grantors and grantees to be determined according to Interest and Ten acres reserved there for publick use notwithstanding such Lott should be laid out to any Particular person or persons. That the land in said Township belonging to grantors and grantees, be subjected to have all necessary Highways laid through them as there shall be occasion for the future without any pay or allowance for Damages that the aforesaid grantees their Heirs or assigns not heretofore excused from charge by a Major Vote in publick Meeting called for that purpose, Grant and assess in equal proportion such Sum or sums of money as they shall think necessary for carrying forward and compleating the settlement aforesaid or for the support of the ministry as the Proprietors shall agree to and every of the Grantees exclusive of three Publick Lotts or his assignee who shall neglect for the space of sixty days after such assessments shall be granted to pay the same, so much of such delinquents Rights shall and may be sold as will pay their respective Fines and all charges

arising thereon by a committee to be appointed by the grantees or their assignees for that purpose.

And in case any of the grantees or their assignees shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the Articles, Matters or things aforesaid by him respectively to be done He shall forfeit his Right in said Township and every part thereof, to those of the Grantees or their Immediate Assignees who shall have comply'd with the conditions on their Part herein Expressed and it shall and may be Lawfull for them or any person by their Authority to enter into & upon the Right or part of such Delinquent Owner, and any and every part in the Name and behalf of the whole of the Grantees or their Immediate Assignees, who shall comply as aforesaid to move oust and expell for the use of them their Heirs and assigns, provided they settle or cause to be settled each such delinquent Right within the Term of one year at the Farthest from the Periods that is by this Instrument Stipulated to be done as the condition of this grant, and fully comply with the whole Duty such delinquents ought to have done within One year from Time to Time after the respective Periods thereof, and in case the grantees or their Assignees fulfilling their parts as aforesaid shall neglect fulfilling as aforesaid the Duty of any delinquent Owner as aforesaid then such right or part shall be Forfeit revert and belong to the Grantees their Heirs and assigns to be wholly at their disposal, allways provided there be no Indian Warr with in any of y^e terms aforesaid for doing the Duty conditioned in this grant, and in case that should happen the same Time to be allowed for the respective matters afores'd after such Impediment shall be removed. That all white pine Trees fit for Masting His Majesties Royal Navey growing on said Tract of Land be and hereby are granted to his Majesty. His heirs and successors forever. Lastly the said grantors do promise and engage to y^e said grantees their Heirs and assigns to defend through the Law, to King & Council if need be one action that shall and may be brought against them or any Number of them by any person or persons whatever claiming the said Land or any part thereof by any other Title than that of the s^d grantors, or that by which they hold and derive theirs from provided the said grantors are avouched in to defend the same and that in case on Final Tryall the same shall be recovered, against the grantors that such person or persons shall recover nothing over against the grantors for the said Lands, Improvements or Expence, in bringing forward the settlement.

To all which Premises I Joseph Blanchard Agent for and in behalf of the Proprietors the grantors have hereunto set my Hand and seal this fifth day of December A D. 1753.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

Signed, Sealed & DD

in presence of

Geo: Delond
Jn^o Bowles

The foregoing pages contain a true copy of the charter signed & Executed by Joseph Blanchard Esq as agent for & in behalf of the Propriet^{rs} of lands purchased of Jn^o Tufton Mason Esq in the province of New Hampshire delivered unto us the subscribers in behalf of the grantees mentioned in this charter. And Whereas we were by the afores^d grantees Authorized & Impowred to Settle agree & compound concerning the premises in the afore written charter with the s^d Joseph Blanchard Esq in his capacity above mentioned on such terms & conditions & with such reservations as by both parties should be agreed & concluded—Now therefore we the s^d Committee in the name & behalf

of the grantees mentioned in the afore written charter, hereby accept s^d Title & for s^d Grantees do acknowledge that we hold s^d Lands under the s^d grantor's Title & on the conditions & Limitations with the reservations express'd in said charter Witness our hands this 5th Decemb^r 1753.

Wittnesses

Lowe Pickman
John Nutting Jr.

Benj^h Lynde
Benj^a Picknam } Comtee
Joshua Hicks }

Schedule to be annexed to Charter made to Benjamin Lynde Esq and others of Salem-Canada now called Lyndeborough.

<i>Person's Names.</i>	<i>No. of home division Lotts.</i>	<i>No. of Second division Lotts.</i>
Benjamin Lynde Esq.....	27, 50, 23.....	44, 55, 83, 84, 98, 101, 65
Benj. Pickman Esq.....	9, 22, 44.....	53, 66, 80, 83, 111
Robert Hooper Esq & Mr Sweet's heirs.....	2, 8, 37, 41, 43, 49.....	[87, 94, 29, 103 34, 36, 27, 92, 33, 48, 49, 108,
Joseph Blaney Esq.....	3, 6.....	30, 41, 54
Majr Joshua Hicks.....	28, 47.....	52, 97, 102, 114
Benjamin Goodhue.....	29, 58, 61.....	48, 60, 64, 115, 124, 125
Thomas Fletcher.....	18, 35.....	54, 57, 82
Samuel Wells Esq.....	54, 57.....	71, 73, 81
George Gould.....	24, 46.....	64, 70, 74
Ephraim Ingalls.....	49, 59.....	51, 112, 119, 123
Daniel Epes, Jr. Esq.....	51, 53.....	49, 73, 104, 107
Capt Joseph Richardson.....	19, 31.....	63, 89, 113, 118
Josiah Bowers.....	1.....	81
Joseph Bowditch Esq.....	4.....	86, 95
The Heirs of James Lindall Esq.....	7.....	77, 78
Stephen Putnam.....	14.....	113, 122
Jonathan Bowers.....	14.....	47, 79
John Bickford.....	16.....	38, 42
Moses Graves.....	38.....	109, 110
Majr John Towle.....	15.....	45, 105
Oliver Fletcher Esq.....	39.....	72
Hannah Cabot.....	42.....	120, 121
Joseph Clough.....	45.....	62, 96
David Stimson.....	48.....	58, 59
Daniel Nichols.....	52.....	68
Robert Swan.....	55.....	
Jonathan Peeie.....	60.....	35, 61
Timothy Cumings.....	26.....	31, 32
William Holt.....	25.....	40, 78
School Lott.....	32.....	67, 126
Ministry Lott.....	33.....	90, 91
First Ministers Lott.....	34.....	126, 127

The foregoing List is the Schedule referred to in the annexed Charter

Benj^h Lynde
Benj. Picknam } comtee
Joshua Hicks }

[NOTE.—In the original MS. volume, p. 283, is a survey and plan of the abovesaid township. Ed.]

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq Governor and
commander in chief in and over his majestys Province of
New Hamp^t & the Hon^r his Majestys Council

The petition of a number of Inhabitants of said Province
Humbly Sheweth that they live on a Tract of land in said
province Bounded Easterly by Amherst southerly by Wilton
Northerly by New Boston and Westerly Near what was called
Peterborough and that said tract of land is not yet Incorporated
into a Town & by reason of which they labour under
many difficultys. Therefore your petitioners Humbly pray
that they may be Incorporated into a Body Politick and by a
charter be Invested with the Authority & Priviledges as other
Towns have & enjoy in this province and y^r petitioners as in
duty Bound shall ever pray.

June y^e 28th 1763.

John Stephenson

Joseph Wilkins

William Holt

John Carlin

Jacob Cram

Jonathan Cram

David Cram

Moses Ordway

Ephraim Powers

Moses Steels

Ephraim Putnam

Melchisedek Corfee

David Badger

George Goold

Robert Badger

Moses Stiles, Jr

John Kidder

Joshua Hodle

John Ordway

John Johnston

Jacob Wellman

Adam Johnson

William Carson

John Hutchason

Edward Reming Jr

Having considered the within Petition I do hereby consent to the In-
corporation of the s^d Town of Lyndeborough & you are hereby directed
to prepare a charter of Incorporation accordingly

B. WENTWORTH

To M^r Secretary Atkinson.

MADBURY.

[Formerly a part of Dover; was incorporated 31 May, 1755. Ed.]

Petition for a Parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor &
commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New
Hampshire The Honourable his Majestys Council & House
of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly
convened the 10th day of May 1743.

The petition of Sundry Persons Inhabitants of the Westerly

part of the Town of Dover & the Northerly part of Durham in said Province Humbly Shews, That your Petitioners live at such a distance from the meeting houses in their Respective Towns as makes it difficult for them & their Families to attend the Publick Worship there especially in the Winter & spring seasons of the year, which Induc'd a number of your Petitioners some years since at their own cost to Build a meeting House situated more conveniently for them where they have some times had preaching in those seasons of the year at their own expence tho they were not Exempted from paying their proportion at the same time to the standing Minister of the Town.

That the Towns aforesaid are well able as your Petitioners apprehend to bear their annual charges without the assistance of y^r Petitioners and that *they* might be Incorporated into a new Parish whereby they might be accommodated their children & servants (as well as themselves) have more Frequent opportunities of attending Public Worship and all of them Keep the advantages of such an Incorporation which considering their present circumstances they think would not be a few, and the Towns not Injured.

That your Petitioners conceive a parish might be erected with out prejudice to the other part of the Town of Dover by the Following boundaries viz. Beginning at the Bridge over Johnsons Creek so called, where the dividing Line between Dover & Durham Cross the Country Road & from thence running as the said Road runs until it comes even with Joseph Jenkins his house & from thence to run on a North West & by North course until it comes to the head of said Township which boundaries would comprehend the estates & habitations of y^r Petitioners living in Dover & the making a parish there will greatly contribute to the settling the lands within said Boundaries & those that Lay contiguous as well as be very convenient for y^r Petitioners. Wherefore they most humbly pray that a parish may be erected & Incorporated by the Bounderies aforesaid with the usual powers & Priviledges & that such of y^r Petitioners as live within the Town of Durham may have liberty to Poll off into the same, or that such a part of the said Township may be annexed thereunto which would be the better way as will accommodate the Remote settlers in said Township near the said Boundaries as well as your petitioners or that they may be Relieved In such other way & method as this Hon^{ble} Court shall see fit, & yo^r petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Thomas Wille
John Roberts
Samuel Davis
Samuel Chesley

John Huckins
James Jackson
Zachariah Pitman
Ely Demerit

Thomas Bickford
 Daniel M'Hame
 James Huckins
 Ralph Hall
 William Bussell
 Azariah Boody
 Timothy Moses
 John Demeret
 Zachariah Edgerly
 Joseph Daniel
 Francis Drew
 Daniel Young
 William Twombly
 Isaac Twombly
 Joseph Evans junr.
 John Evens
 Henry Bickford
 Henry Bussell
 Joseph Hicks
 John Tasker
 Derry Pitman
 Paul Gerrish, Jr
 John Busskell
 Job Demeret
 David Daniel
 James Chesle
 Reuben Chesle
 Henry Tibbetes

John Foay, Jr
 Solomon Emerson
 Jacob Daniel
 Joseph Rines
 Benjamin Hall
 William Demeret
 William Allen
 his
 Nathiel O Davis
 mark
 Samuel Davis Jr
 Jonathan Hanson
 Robert Evens
 Jonathan Daniel
 William Hill
 Stephen Pinkham
 Benjamin Wille
 John Rowe
 Hercules Moony
 Joseph Twombly
 Abraham Clark
 Joseph Jackson
 James Clemens
 William Dam Jr
 Morres Fowler
 Robert Wille
 Abel Leathers

In the House of Representatives May 13th 1743.

The within Petition Read and Voted That the petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of the Town of Dover and also the select men of the Town of Durham with a copy of this petition and the Vote thereon. That the selectmen of the Respective Towns aforesaid may Notifie the said Towns to appoint psons to appear the third day of the sitting of the Generall Assembly at their next sessions of Gen^l Assembly to shew cause if any why the prayer of the petition may not be Granted.

James Jeffry Cler. Ass^m

Province of)
 New Hamp) May 27th 1743.

The above Vote read & concurr'd

Theod^r Atkinson, Secry

Eodem Die.

Assented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

Call for a town meeting in Dover.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover such as are Legally qualified to Vote in Publick Town meeting

This is to give notice of a publick Town meeting to be holden at the meeting House at Cocheco in Dover on Monday the nineteenth day of this Instant at three of the clock in the after noon to chuse a Constable &c And also to hear the Request of the Westerly part of the Town called Madbury for Raising Money for the support of the Ministry in that part of the Town for six months.

Dover July 10th 1742.

Tho ^s Willet	} Select men.
Jn ^r Winget	
Jos. Roberts	
Ely Demeret	

Pursuant to the foregoing Notification a publicke Toun meeting was holden at the Meeting House at Cochecho in Dover July 19. 1742. And Capt Tho^s Willet Esq. was chosen Moderator of the s^d meeting &c

And the Request of the Westerly part of the Town for Raising money for the support of y^e Ministry in that part of the Town for six months as mentioned in the above notification was then heard considered & put to Vote & it Passed in the Negative.

A true copy attested,

Dover May 5th 1743.

Pr. Paul Gerrish,
Town Clerk.

Bounds of the West end of Dover.

These may certify That the Bounds of the Inhabitants of the West End of Dover petitioned might be the bounds of a parish and Petitioned for is as follows viz.

Beginning at the Bridge over Johnsons Creek so called where the dividing Line between Dover & Durham crosses the Country road & from thence running as the s^d road runs until it comes even with Joseph Jenkins his house & from thence to run on a north West & by North course until it comes to the head of the s^d Township which Boundaries would comprehend the estates & Inhabitants of your Petitioners Living in Dover & the making a parish there will &c

A copy of the Bounds mentioned in the above Petition

Attested

Pr. Theodore Atkinson.

The Petitioners for a Parish in Madbury & what they paid in the year 1743.

	£	S
Thomas Willey	0	17 3
John Roberts		16 2
Samuel Davis		16 2
Paul Gerrish		10 11
Samuel Chesley		18 5
James Chesley		16 2
James Jackson		13 6
John Huckins	1	5 2
Job Demerett	1	2 4
John Tasker	1	3 2
David Daniel		16 11
Zachariah Pitman		15 0
Solomon Emerson	1	0 8
Joseph Hicks	1	17 6
James Huckins		10 11
Azariah Boody		10 2
Daniel Meserve	1	7 9
Francis Drew		15 9
Thomas Bickford		14 3
Ralph Hall		16 11
John Foy Jr		9 9
Henry Tebbets		17 6
Dery Pitman	1	13 9
John Bussell		14 3
William Bussell		10 11
William Demerett		13 11
Eli Demerett, Jr	1	2 6

Joseph Rines	8	3
Jacob Daniel	13	11
Timothy Moses	11	3
Benjamin Hall	13	2
John Demerett	15	0
Zachariah Edgerly	19	11
William Allen	9	9
Joseph Daniel	12	9
Nathl Davis	12	5
Daniel Young	15	0
Samuel Davis Jr	13	2
Jonathan Hanson	0	0 0
Robert Evans	11	3
William Twombly 3 ^d	11	8
Isaac Twombly	13	11
Joseph Evens, Jr	9	9
Jonn Evens	18	0
Henery Bickford	11	8
Jonathan Daniel	12	9
William Hill	18	9
Stephen Pinkham	10	11
Henry Bussell	12	0
Benjamin Willey	7	6
John Row	7	6
Herkules Mooney	8	3
Joseph Twombly	11	3
Abraham Clark	0	0 0
Joseph Jackson	12	9
James Clements	7	6
Reuben Chesley	12	5 (1)

40 10 1

(1) Accompanying the foregoing is a list of inhabitants of Dover and tax assessed to a new Parish. Ed.

In the House of Representatives Aug. 24th 1744. The within petition read and the Parties on both sides heard, And the Return of the Committee appointed by the Gen^l Ass^m for the viewing of the Town of Dover, Read, and the House having considered thereon, Voted provided the petitioners procure an Orthodox minister or ministers to preach to them at that part of the Town of Dover called Madbury, Six months or more in a yeare during y^e space of three years to comence from the first of y^e next. That then there be Raised by the town of Dover & paid by the select men or Town Treasurer of the said Town of Dover annually to the said Minister or Ministers the sum of one hundred & twenty pounds (Old Tenor) after the Rate of twenty pounds p month as the preaching is Performed annually for the said three years and that the petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^m

In Council Decemb. 21, 1744.

The parties heard on the within Petition & the Vote of the Houses above Considered & non concur'd. Nemine contradicente.

Theod. Atkinson Secy

Prov New Hamp (1)

"Wherefore to remedy the above Grievances your Humble petitioners Humbly pray That your Excellency & Hon^{rs} would be pleased by an Act of General Assembly to Invest us with the Priviledges and pow-

ers of a Town, and a small matter to enlarge our Boundaries according or near our first petition viz. to begin at a place in Quochecho river called the gulf and from thence on a Straight Line to the Southern side of Varneys Great Hill & from thence to run on a North West point of the compass to the end of the Township and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall &c."

The above is Paragraph of a Petition signed Paul Wentworth & many others free holders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Somersworth, Dated May the 19th 1743 & then preferred to the General Assembly of the Prov. afores^d

Attest,

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

(1) This paper apparently belongs to Somersworth. Ed.

MARLOW.

[Marlow was chartered Oct. 7, 1761. Ed.]

Province of) Marlow, January y^e 7th 1772. These may Certifye
NewHampshire / His Excellency the Governour & His Majesties Honourable Council the folowing a count are of the Names
of the Heds of famelys, Now dwelling in this Toun and of the Single
men now dwelling here.

Heds of famelys

Jasper Huntley
Loas Huntley widow
Elisha Mack
Silvenus Huntly
Nathan Huntly
Eber Lewis
Richard Otes
Sam^l Camfield
John Gustin
Abner Bingham
Sam^l Gustin
Nicodemus Miller
Ruel Royce
Jonathan Royce

Abel Beckwith
Selvernes Beckwith
Joseph Huntley
Solomon Gee
Nehemiah Royce
Elisha Royce
Abisha Tubs
Titus Church
Epraham Brockway
Solomon Mack
Aseph Mather
Joseph Tubs
John Noyce Mather
Martin Wade.

Single men.

Ruphas Huntley
Isaih Huntly
Nathan Huntly
Josiah Gustin

Asa Huntly
Thomas Gustin
Phedrack Tubbs
Simeon Church

Famelys made preparation to com on next Spring.

Abner Tubs
John Mack
Zopher Mack

Sam^l Comstock
Timothy Owen

Wee the Subscribers selectmen of the Town Marlow Do hereby certify that the names of the famelys above mentioned and singel men

are now Residents and dwellers here the others have been making preparation to come on as above mentioned

Nathan Huntley	} Selectmen of y ^r town of Marlow
Eber Lewis	

Petition for extension of Charter.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. General & Commander In chief of his Majesties Province of New Hampshire.

May it please you excellency,

Wee the Subscribers proprietors in the township of Marlow in the Province aforesd being Notefyed to appear byfore your Excellency to shew Reasons why the delinquent Rights & Shares in said township should not be Declared forfeit we therefore Beg leave to Represent to your Excellency that we soon began the settlement in the said Township and lay'd out considerable Sums therefor & the same was in a hoopfull way of being Spedely settled & the conditions of the grant complied with & that the proprietors or most of them lay'd out apart of their proportions or shares in the said Township & that sum time after the Laying out s^d Township & the proprietors a settling & s^d town was in a flourishing state and likely Soon to be settled & the conditions fulfilled the proprietors of a large Tract of land in the s^d provence of New Hampshire call^d Masons patten caused their line of their patent to be Run & ascertained whereby it appeared that more than one mile in Breadth through said town ship was Included in the pattent aforesaid whereby the proprietors of said Township were thrown into the uttermost consternation many of the settlements which were then begun falling within the aforesaid pattent and the property in the town much lessened and many of the Setlers went of & others who were going on Discouraged that we have been at grate Expence and endeavored to settle with the proprietors of said pattent for the Lands included in there grant but have been hitherto unsuccessful notwithstanding which discourigements we have not given over the thoughts of making our settlements in s^d Township and are prosecuting our settlements as fast as poseeble under which discouragements we hope the rights in s^d Township which are not settled will not be declared forfeit^d but humbly pray the Grant & charter of said Township may be confirmed to us & the charter thereof extended & we shall do our uttermost Indevours that the settlement shall be made according to the conditions of the said charter & grant & we as In duty bound shall ever pray

Dated december 30th 1771.

Original Proprietors.

Jacob Canfield
 Ephraim Brockway
 Nehemiah Royce
 William Matson
 Geo: King
 John Bettenham

Proprietors by purchase.

Nathan Huntly 2 Rites
 Rufus Huntly 1 Rite
 Sam^l Canfield 2 Rites
 Eber Lewis 2 Rites
 Loes Huntly 1 Rite
 Joseph Brown 1 Rite
 Joseph Tubs 2 Rites.
 Abijha Tubs 1 Right.
 Ruel Royce 1 Right.
 Jonathan Royce 1 Rite
 Elisha Royce 1 Rite.

Sam^l Royce 1 Right.
 Nicodemus Miller 2 Rights.
 John Gustin 1 Right.
 Solomon Gee 1 Right
 Abel Beckwith 1 Right.
 Simon Baxter 1 Right
 Sylvanus Huntly 1 Rite.
 Elisha Mack, 1 Rite.
 Abner Bingham 1 Rite.
 Sam^l Gustin } Agent for
 } s^d proprietors.

Ezra Selden
 Abner Lee
 John M^cCurdy
 Benjamin Hide
 Samuel Comstock
 Solomon Mack
 Thomas Sabin
 Benjamin Lee

 MERRIMACK.

[Incorporated 2 April, 1745. Ed.]

Petition for a tax on non-resident lands.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r & the
 Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in
 Generall Assembly Convened at Portsmouth the 9th of April
 1754.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Merrimack
 Humbly Shews.

That their settlement is in its Infancy the greatest part of
 the Inhabitants settled since the late war and have been at
 Large Expençe in clearing and making of roads that they have
 Built & Have to maintain three great Bridges over Souheeg
 River besides many over severall other large Streams in that
 Town at the Expençe of near a Thousand pounds besides
 other necessary Town charges which has all been Loaded on
 the few Inhabitants there settled and are now a going to erect
 a meeting house in s^d town the Burden whereof will be ex-
 ceeding Heavy & a discouragement to persons settling there if
 the tax must wholly be Raised on Poles and estates.

That theres a considerable quantity of unimproved Lands
 in s^d Town owned by non-resident Gentlemen who has never
 been at any expence in Bringing forward the settlement or
 Otherways whereby the Inhabitants has been eased; That the

settlers by their Labour & Industry has Increased the Value of such Lands more than four double to what they would have been & they must still greatly increase on the Florishing of the s^d Town.

Wherefore we Humbly pray that your excellency & Hon^{rs} would please to grant that all the lands Belonging to nonresident prop. in that town whereon settlement is not made may be taxed at Sixpence per acre for one year to be Improved for and Towards building a meeting house and two pence per acre for the next four years for and towards the support of a minister and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

PHINEHAS UNDERWOOD	} Select ^{rs}
WILLIAM ALLD	
CHEARITY LUND	
JOSEPH BLANCHARD jun	

Prov. N. Hamps. In council April 16th 1754

Read & ordered to be sent down, to y^e Hon^{ble} House of Represents.
Theod Atkinson, Secy.

Province of } In the house of Representatives April 16th 1754.
New Hamps }

Upon reading the within petition, Voted that the Petitioners be heard on the within petition on the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly after the last day of June next, and that the petitioners at their own cost Insert the substance of the s^d petition and orders thereon in two of the public papers viz^t In the News Boy print and the Tuesdays paper three weeks successively, that any person or persons may shew cause if any they have, why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore, Clerk.

In Council, Eod^a Die

Read & Concurr'd.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec 14th 1754.
New Hamp^r }

Upon the motion of Mr Jonathan Lovewell that the foregoing within petition might be revived, Voted that the petitioners be heard on the within Petition on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the twentyeth day of January next and that the petitioners at their Own cost Insert the substance of the said petition and orders thereon in one of the public news papers two weeks successively that any person or persons may shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

Matthew Livermore Clerk.

December 14, 1754.

The above vote Read and Concurred.

Theod. Atkinson Secy.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan. y^e 23, 1755.
New Hamp^r }

The within petition being read & the subject matter of the prayer thereof being duly weighed & considered,

Voted, That the prayer of s^d petition so far as relates to the six pence Pr acre to be Improved for & toward building a Meeting House be granted, that the Meeting House be built as soon as Conveniently may

be & the acc^{ts} thereof laid before the Gen^l Assem^b, & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in an act accordingly.

Hen. Sherburne Jr. Clr. P. T.

In Council Eod^m Die.

Read & Concurr'd in appearing to the Board that advertizment agreeable to vote had been issued.

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

Petition for dividing the State into Counties.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Gov^r &^c the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly Convened at Portsmouth y^e 9th of April 1754.

Wee the subscribers Inhabitants of the Province of New Hamp^r on the West side of Merrymac River,

Would most Humbly Remonstrate, That the extent of the settlements in this Province is upwards of One Hundred miles Westward from Portsmouth the Place where all the Courts are held.

That the Difficulties of Travill & expence to and from Portsmouth on all County Emergencies Lays the Western Inhabitants under Insupportable Disadvantage as well as Occasioning great delay to the Parties & Jurors who necessarily attend the courts of Judicature. by which the Government is Greatly Impoverish^d

That we Humbly apprehend these Grievances might be in some good meas^r Redress^d by dividing the Government into Two Countys. Which also would be a means of a great Increase of Inhabitants & Improvements in the Western parts of this Province.

Wherefore we Humbly pray That your Excellency & Honors would take the premises into consideration & Divide the province into two Countys by such dividing Line & with such Powers and Authoritys as in your wisdom shall be tho^t Best, and as in Duty Bound shall pray.

Merrimack Names.

Jon^a Cumings, Jr
Samuel Spaulding
William Patten
Zachariah Stearns, Jr
Ebenezer Hills
John Stearns
Zachariah Stearns
Daniel Stearns
William M^cCluer
John M^cClencke
Hugh Giles
Robert Murdough

James Cowans
Thomas Vickere Jr
James Moore
David Thomson
Thomas Barns
Samuel Vose
John Thome
John Hanry
Joseph Farmer
Thomas Farmer
John Roby
Ephraim Powers

James Mathays
 Tim^o Taylor
 Reuben Grele
 John Hutchison
 Tho^s Cowan
 Moses Trull
 Benj. Auger
 James M^cCluer
 James Kanady
 James Morr Jr

Robert M^cCluer
 Phi^s Underwood
 Jonathan Cumings
 Simeon Cumings
 William Usher
 Jonas Barret
 Francis Dimon
 William Alld
 William Howard

Bedford Names.

John Usher
 Robert Usher
 Benj. Hallatt?
 Benjamin Baxter
 Elaxander Anis
 Eli Turrel
 William Arbuckle
 Robert M Cormick
 Samuel Miller
 James Miller
 James Mathay
 Joseph Thomas
 Thomas Rickere
 Robert Nesmith
 Samuel Barnet
 James Gillmor

Rob^t Gillmor
 James Gillmoore
 John Chamberlin
 Joseph Blanchard, Jr
 Patrick Tagard
 William Henry
 William Hastings
 James Minott
 Joseph Barnes
 Mathew Thornton
 William M^ccluer jun.
 Charity Lund
 John M^cLaughlin
 William Lund
 James M^cClure

*Petition of Inhabitants of Merrimack to be attached to Col.
 Goffe's Regiment.*

To the Honourable John Goffe Esq^r Col^o of the ninth Regiment of Melitia in the Province of New Hamp^r

The Humble suplication of The Inhabitants of that part of Merrymac formerly Souhegan East, *Sheweth,*

That your suplicants are exceeding Desireous if it might be granted to us to be under your Comand as our Col^ono, & apprehend that as souhegan River was formerly the bounds between old Dunstable and the Souhegans as may appear pr the Plan &^d and there is at Least thirteen or fourteen Companys in Col^o Lovewills Regiment to the southward of said River,

And that if the affair were fairly Represented to his Excellency our Governor your Honr might easly obtain our suplication—would pray your favour and Interest in behalf of this our Suplication with our Governor and shall as in duty bound ever pray.

Benja Baxter
 Thomas Vickere Jr
 John Stewart
 Alexander M^cCaly
 James M^cCalley

William Alld
 James Cowan
 James Thomas
 Robert Griffin
 Samuel M^cConihie

John McConihie
 Joseph Scobey
 James Moore
 Sam^l Caldwell
 John Cunningham
 Robert Nesmith?
 John Jacobs
 James Moors Jr
 John Thomes
 James Moor, Sr
 Joseph Farmer
 James Gillmor
 Robert Gillmor
 Samuel Gillmor
 John Gillmor
 Samuel Barnat

William Henry
 John Henry Jr
 Daniel M^cCleary Jr
 William Alld Jr
 Patrick Taggart
 Joseph M^cClenche
 John M^cClenche
 John Henry
 Robert M^cCormick
 Samuell Miller
 Mathew Miller
 Samuell Gibson
 Robert Gillmor Jr
 Thomas Vickere
 Moses Vickere

MONADNOCK NO. 7.

Petition for an Act of Incorporation.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Capt General Governor & Commander in chief in & Over the Province of New Hamp^t The Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council for said Province.

Humbly shew, Jonathan Blanchard & Oliver Parker agents Legally chosen for the Freeholders & Inhabitants of that Tract of Land in said Province Known by the name of Monadnock number seven. That your petitioners Entred into and upon the premises under a Title from the Proprietors of Masons Right so called & have with great Toil & Labour form'd very considerable settlements therein.

That the Tract of land afores^d contains about six miles square, & is well situated for a Township that they have built a Meeting house & have had preaching occasionally for eighteen months Last past that they Labour under difficulties for want of an Incorporation which if obtained would greatly Promote the Public good.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray they may be Incorporated into a Body Politick to have continuance & be Invested with all the Powers Priviledges & Immunities that other Towns in said Province by Law Exercise & enjoy, And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

JOHN BLANCHARD
 OLIVER PARKER

NEW BOSTON.

[New Boston was granted by Massachusetts, Jan. 14, 1736. Incorporated by New Hampshire, Feb. 18, 1763. Ed.]

Petition about minister and school lots.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire &° The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants, proprietors & freeholders in the Township of New Boston in the province aforesaid Humbly shews

That when the proprietors of said New Boston Drew their Respective shares and the shares for publick use, The Lott Number Sixty one was drawn, for the use of the first settled minister & his heirs forever, & the Lott Number fifty three was drawn for the use of school, Both Lotts in the Second Division. And whereas the said Lott N^o 61 is far from the Center of said Town, & yet the nearest of any Lott belonging to said Ministers Right, & the Lott N^o 53, tho one mile from said Center is much more convenient, & your Petitioners having been long Destitute of the Gospel ministry & having now a prospect of settling a gentleman to our great satisfaction, & being exceeding, desirous to accommodate him in the best manner possible, the Inhabitants aforesaid at a Legal meeting Held in New Boston aforesaid the third day of Dec. Last past, Voted unanimously to exchange said Lotts (viz) that the above-said Lott N^o 53 shall forever hereafter be the property of the first settled minister in said New Boston to him & his heirs & Assigns forever, & that the Lot n^o 61 shall forever hereafter be for the use of the school there. this Vote on condition that your Excellency & Honours confirm it & for the Reasons aforesaid the petitioners Humbly pray your consideration on the premises & that either the abovesaid Vote may be confirmed or the exchange made in such a manner as will secure the property to the minister & school forever & your Petitioners as in duty Bound will ever pray

New Boston 25th Feb. A D. 1768.

Ninian Clark
Mathew Caldwell
William Caldwell
Robert Boyd
Rob^t Clark
John M^cLaughlin
Will^m Clark
Henary Ferson

Rob^t Livingston
John Gordon
James Hunter
John M^cAllester
Robert White
Daniel M^cAllester
William Moor
William Grag

James Cochran
 Nathaniel Cochran
 William Boyce
 Allen Moor
 George Cristy
 Jesse Cristy
 Robart Hogg
 James Ferson

Paul Ferson
 James Ferson, Jr
 Thomas M^cColom
 Thomas Cochran
 John Cochran
 Peter Cochran
 Thomas Cochran Jr
 Abraham Cochran

In Council March 3, 1768.

Read & sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembl.y
 Geo. King Dep. Secy.

Province of }
 New Hamp } In the House of Representatives March 4th 1768.

Voted, That the pray^r of this petition be Granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill or Resolve for establishing the same accordingly

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council Eodem die,
 Read & concurred.

Geo. King, Depy Secy.

Province of }
 New Hampshire } In the House of Represent^s March 7th 1768.

The petition of sundry persons Inhabitants of New Boston was this day again taken under Consideration by which it is Represented, That when the Lots were sever'd belonging to the respective shares of the proprietors of said Township the Lot numbered sixty one was drawn to the share appropriated to the use of the first settled minister & his heirs forever and the lot Numbered fifty three was drawn to the share appropriated to the use of a school which might be changed greatly to the advantage of the First Minister which was now likely to settle in said Town whom they were Desirous to Encourage. They therefore Pray'd that they might be authorized to make said exchange and that the Votes they had passed for that Purpose be confirmed and it appearing that the settling of a minister of the Gospel in any New Township to his & the Peoples satisfaction tends much to the Increase of Inhabitants and the property of such Town. Therefore it is considerd & hereby Resolved and Voted That the votes of the said Inhabitants for making said exchange be & hereby are confirmed for this purpose and that the lot Number Sixty one in second division in said Township be & hereby shall be adjudged taken & held as part of the share of land there belonging to said school right & share, and the Lot numbered fifty three in the said division in said Township shall be adjudged taken & held as part of the share & right appropriated & belonging to the first minister of the Gospel in said Township, each of said Lots so to be adjudged taken & held to be given granted & so appropriated in exchange for the other to be held to & for the Respective uses aforesaid forever.

P. Gilman, Speaker.

In Council Eodem die,
 Read & Concurr'd.

Geo. King Depy. Secy.
 Attested,

J^r WENTWORTH.

Petition for a tax on certain lands.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire & Vice admiral of the same &c The Honourable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in Generall Assembly convened.

The subscribers Inhabitants of New Boston in the county of Hillsborough in said Province, Humbly shews, That when your petitioners settled the Reverend Mr Solomon Moore all the Inhabitants on that tract of Land then called New Boston Addition, joined with us in calling, settling paying &c & we expected would have done so for many years. But they are now by your Excellency and Honours sett off by the name of Frances Town & pay no more with us.

2^d. The Roads in New Boston are very numerous & the Land very hilly & Rocky & we have many large Bridges to build & support over large streams. Finally the Province tax the ministers Sallary, the Roads & Bridges, oppress the few Inhabitants many of which are new beginners & advances the none Resident Land

Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray your Excellency & Honours that an Act may be made to tax all the Land in New Boston. Improved & not Improved, Resident and None Resident. The Land belonging to the purchasers of the Patent of John Tufton Mason Esq. Excepted, at one penny Lawful money pr acre pr annum, for six years next coming to be applied to the uses afores^d, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c

New Boston Oct 25th A D. 1773.

William Booyes
Nath^l Cochran
John Cochran Jr
John Graham
Archibald M Millan
James Cochran
David Henderson
Thomas Cochran
George Cristey
William Clark
John M Laughlin
Jesse Cristy
James Willson
Thomas Willson
Peter Cochran
William Moor
John M^cMillan
Daniel M^cMillan, Jr
John M^cMillan Jr
William Keler
Archibald M^callester

Robert White
Joⁿ Caldwell
Robert Boyde
Robert Campbell
James Ferson
Paul Ferson
James Ferson Jr
Robert Patterson
John Smith
Alexander Willson
John M^cAllister
Daniel M^callister
Ananias M^callister
William Love
Josiah Warren
James Gregg
Robert Hogge
Alex^r Gregg
Hugh Gregg
Ni^h Clark
John Cochran

Reuben Smith
John Gordon
William Blair

Abraham Cocran
James Willson Jr
James Gregg Jr

We the above Subscribers authorize & appoint the Honourable Mathew Thornton Esq our agent to present this petition to his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Captain General, Governor & commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & the Honourable his Majestys council & House of Representatives & get the prayer thereof granted if possible and we the Petitioners Beg the Favour of the Hon^{ble} Mathew Thornton Esq to *Except* the trust we Repose in him.

In Council Jan. 13, 1774.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
Geo. King, D. Secry.

Province of New Hampshire.

In the house of Represent^s January 14th 1774.

Voted, That the petitioners cause the substance of this petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively that any person having any Objections may be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next after the 15th of February next.

William Parker, Cler. Assem

In Council Eodem die.

Read and concurrd.

Geo. King.

Petition to raise taxes to finish the Meeting house.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshir } Esq Governor & The Honorable his Maj-
estys Council & House of Representatives
for said Province

The proprietors of the Township of New Boston in said Province Most humbly Remonstrate,

That the said Proprietors have raised the frame of a house for the publick worship of God in said Town and is not in a capacity to Raise money to compleat and finish the same by which Inability said frame remains uncovered and if it continues so any space of time uncovered will be damaged if not wholly ruined wherefore they pray this Honorable Court to take there case into their wise consideration and enable them to Raise such sum or sums of money from time to time as shall be judged necessary by a majority of votes of said proprietors for the compleating and finishing said House, and any other affairs of said Proprietors (for the benefit of the Inhabitants of said town and proprietors) on each person or persons owning lands in said Townships and to enable said proprietors to sell so much of such delinquent owners of land in said Town (excepting those Rights owned by the purchasers of Tufton Mason Esq claime in said Province) not as yet improved by said

purchasers and your petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Septem 25, 1764.

JOHN HILL	} Com ^{tee} of s ^d Proprs
JAMES HALSEY	
JAMES CALDWELL	
THOMAS COCHRAN	

Province of } Septem 25, 1764, at a meeting of the proprietors of
New Hampshir } New Boston held at the Dwelling House of Mr
Tho^s Harwood in Dunstable in said Province,

Voted That M^r James Callwell prefer the above petition in behalf of
said proprietors and attend the directions of the Generall Court there.

Attest

Rob^t Jenkins, P. Clerk

Prov of New Hamp.

In Council Jany 8th 1765

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

T. Atkinson, P Secry.

Province of } In the House of Representatives

New Hamp } Jany 9th 1765.

This petition being read,

Voted, That the prayer thereof be granted Except the Exception
made In the Latter end of the within petition & that the petitioners
have liberty to bring In a bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk

Eod^m Die.

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Secry.

VOLUME V.

NEWCASTLE TO PORTSMOUTH.

NEWCASTLE.

To his Excellency Samuell Shute Esqr. Capt. Generall Governor in chief in & over his majesties Province of New Hampshire & Vice Adm^l of the Same and to the Hon^{ble} the Councill & Representatives Now Conven'd in Generall Assembly for s^d Province.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of New Castle in s^d Province Humble *sheweth*,

That Whereas It was Voted in this Generall Assembly on the 18 day of May 1716 that the Isle of Sholes be obledg'd to pay their province Tax in the Town of New Castle, But a proportion for them to pay was not Set, and therefore your humble Petitioners Never took upon them to tax or Lay any Proportion on the Inhabitants thereof:

Your Petitioners being a Small number and a poore people, Humbly prays the Same Vote may be renewed and that alsoe this Assembly would Direct, & Say, what proportion the Isle of Sholes Shall pay out of the Province Tax that Is Laid on the Town of New Castle.

And alsoe that there may be Authority Given to Assess And Gather the same, & your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray &c.

GOTHAM ODIORNE	} Select men
JOHN SHERBURN	
JOHN LEACH	

Petition against a bridge at New Castle.

Prov. N. Hamp To His Excellency Sam^l Shute Esqr. Capt. General and Gov^r in chief in and over

His Maj^{ties} Prov. Afores^d and vice admiral of the same, and To the Hon^{ble} the Councile, and house of represen^{ves} now sitting in General Assembly.

The Petition of Sundry His Majesties good Subjects of the town of Portsmouth and N. Castle wth in the Province afores^d, most Humbly *Sheweth*,

That some years since, at the time of our late Gov^r Col^o Dudleys administration, a projection was made, and a scheme

laid, for y^e building a bridge from great Island, over the main river of little harbour, to the Main land w^{ch} project was no sooner budded than nipt, w^{ch} prevented its growth, till now tis Sprung up anew, and may if not timely prevented, ripen to a head w^{ch} may be of lasting ill-consequence throughout y^e s^d Province especially to the sea-faring part thereof. May it please yo^r Excellency and y^e hon^{ble} Gen^l Assem^y

We would take leave in y^e first place humbly to address our selves to you by way of Quere, (viz :) Whether it be not an infringement on y^e rights & privileges of y^e Gen^l Assem^y. for any town wth in this province to make and pass any Vote or Votes, for y^e building any bridge, over any navigable river wth in y^e Same as New Castle hath done. and made a beginning thereupon. as is above mentioned, that is to say, to build a bridge from great Island to the main wth in the afores^d town of N. Castle w^{ch} cannot be Justify-able either in law or equity, wthout a Special Act of Gen^l Assem^y for so doing. The reason is plain, for that every navigable river, tho' it may run through any town yet is not y^e peticular property of that town but of the Prov. in Gen^l wherein y^e town lyes, So that tis most evident. y^e tis a matter y^e ought to be before y^e Gen^l Assem^y & not to be proceeded on by y^e authority of a town vote, for illustration. may we further humbly offer, that if such a proceeding upon Such authority is legale and Justifyable, that then N. Castle & Kittery may as wele unite and joyn together and build a bridge from s^d N. Castle to s^d Kittery (if it were practicable) across y^e mouth of the Great Harbour, because one town lyes on one sidè, & tother on y^e other, w^h amounts to just so great a weight of reason, as can be offered in the other case and no more

And now we have plainly demonstrated that y^e afore^{s^d} town of N. Castle, hath entered upon a matter quite out of its legal reach. Now we will in y^e next place as evidently sett forth, that It is as much out of reason that a bridge Should be built at y^e place aforementioned, as it is out of y^e pow^r of N. Castle to build it.

1 There is a ferry stated over s^d river, a high way laid out through the first proprietors lands to said ferry, much money expended in repairing a Cassway to s^d ferry & the ferry house all w^{ch} are benefitts lost & money spent wthout profit if a bridge be built.

2^d All y^e Inhabitants of N. Castle pass & repass ferridge free on Lords days and training days & all publick days.

3^d The want of a bridge will be a Security in case of a warr.

4 Sundry persons living there and thereabout have Some laid out y^e most part, and some y^e whole of their estates in

fishery who must unavoidably be ruined if s^d bridge be allowed of, for stopping their passage is in Effect tying up their hands, & haling their Shallops ashore.

5 If a bridge be built it will stop y^e ice & cause it to Jamm together in y^e winter season that there will be no passing for y^e fishing boatts for three or four months in Winter w^{ch} is y^e harvest for fishing, where as tis now never frozen over or Jamed save two or three days together & that in very hard weather.

6 Another unspeakable hardship w^{ch} will attend a bridge is y^e transportation of Hay from y^e meadows and marishes where the tides must be attended both by night and day and to pass under a draw bridge or through any such gap as their may be wth a gondela of hay in a dark night & a strong wind or in any other vessel wth so strong a Current as there is beside must needs be a danger too terrible to be thought on.

Whereupon we humbly pray no bridge may be allowed as before mentioned and petition^{rs} shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

The foregoing petition being read In Councile it was voted That The Hearing thereof shall be on Thursday next 10 o'clock A. M. & y^t y^e parties be notified accordingly.

Rich^d Waldron Cler. Con.

Nath ^a Gerrish	Jn ^o Hardeson
Stephen Nole	Benj ^a Foster
John Leach	W ^m Cotton
y ^e mark	Thomas Cotton
of George X Walles	William Warrnen
Richard Shortbridg	Henry Bickford
Nathaniel Lang	Jo ^o Sherburn
Stephen Lang	Paul Gerrish
Robert Lang	Hen Sloper
y ^e mark	John Knight
of Jn ^o X Lang	Rich ^d Cutt
John Lang	John Sherburn
y ^e mark	John Jackson
of Jn ^o † E Dallof ?	John Jackson Jun.
Silvanus Scott	Peter Ball Sen.
William White	Peter Ball Junr.
Thomas Beck Jun.	Will Braden
John Abbet	John Ham
y ^e mark of	y ^e mark of
Thomas X Barrons	Jn ^o X Cross
Nicholes Hilliver ?	Nathaniel Odiorn
John Jackson Jun	Stephen Greenleaf
y ^e mark of	James Jeffry
Jno X Lear	Jeth ^o Furbur
William Addams	John Pickeren
y ^e mark of	Tobias Lear
Thomas X Maine	Will ^m Seavey
y ^e mark of	Will ^m Sevey Jun ^r
Jn ^o Shores	Ben Amaskeen

Joseph Seavey
 John Davies
 Georg Banfill
 y^e mark of
 Sampson X Babb
 Phillip Pain
 Hugh Banfill
 Charles Banfiel
 y^e mark of
 Jn^o Rowe
 Abraham Jones

Mathew Nelson
 Ambros Sloper
 y^e mark of
 Jn^o X Peverly sen
 John Peverly
 Tobias Langdon
 Geo Walker
 Thomas More
 John Abbott
 Benj^a Ackerman Sr
 Ephraim Jackson

New Castle's Answer to Sandy-beach Petition.

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esqr. Lieut Governour and Command^r in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the Honourable the Council & Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Convened at Portsm^o in the Said Province.

The answer of Hugh Reed, Jo^s Simson and Daniel Greenough (in behalf of the Inhabitants of that part of New Castle called the Great Island and others adjoining thereto) To a Petition prefer'd to yo^r Hon^r by Sundry of the Inhabitants of Little Harbour and Sandy beach &c: Your Respondents Humbly pray that the Prayer of the afores^d Petition may not be granted for that it may prove to be of very ill Consequence not only to yo^r respond^{ts} but also to the whole Province in Generall. The Inhabitants of Great Island are Gen^l poor and depend on the fishery for a livelyhood, which is very precarious and uncertain, so y^t they are not able to maintain a Minister of the Gospel among them without the assistance of the afores^d Petitioners, the want of which will Discourage many of the said Inhabitants and oblige them to remove and go to live Else where and those that will remain will be obliged to go off of the Island on the Lords day to attend the Publick Worship of God, which in time of Warr will much Expose the Kings Fort on s^d Island to the Surprise of an enemy the afores^d Petitioners Saying that they are willing to Contribute to the Substantance of the ministry during the rev^d M^r Shurtleffs life or Continuance among us (which is both alicke uncertain) will not avail, for Should their Prayer be granted its very Likely Mr Shurtleff would be so Discouraged as to leave us, but admit he should Continue wth us as long as he lives, yet at his Death (w^{ch} we know not but may be before the year comes about) we Shall be Destitute and so Exposed to the afores^d Inconveniences.

Yo^r Respond^{ts} therefore most Humbly Pray That if the afores^d Petition^{rs} be Set off by themselves That they be so in all respects, and that one half of the Land in New Castle be

Subjected to bear the Burthen of the Publick Charge for that part Call'd Great Island and the other half to that Part Call'd Sandy beach. Except Some other Expedient may be found for the Comfortable Maintainance of our Minister for The afores^d Petition^{rs} are Possessed of some Thousands of acres of the best Land in New Castle, and yo^r respond^{ts} but of a few Hundred and most of that so rocky as not fitt for Tillage, and besides that yo^r respond^{ts} have a great many poor widows to releave all which being Considered by yo^r Hon^{rs} yo^r respond^{ts} doubts not of yo^r Hon^{rs} doing therein according to Equity and good Conscience and will as in duty bound ever pray.

April 12th 1726

HUGH REED
JOSEPH SIMPSON
DAN^l GREENOUGH

Joshua Foss
Nath Foss
Samell Sanders o
Nathaniel Berry o
Nathanael Berry Jun^r
Robart Sanders o
John Sanders o
William Marden o
Jotham Berry o
Ebenezer Marden o
Amos Cross
Jonathan Locke o
Oren Dowst ? o
Jonathan Dolbuer o
John Dolbuer o
his
Joseph X Brown o
mark
Jethro Lock o
Thomas Shannon o

John Lane o
William Lock o
Elijah Lock o
James Perkins
James Lock o
Joseph Brown
W^m Randall o
Joses Philbrick o
Joseph Lock o
his
John X Lock
mark
William Lock Junr. o
Joseph Philbrick
Richard Lock o
John Pain o
Nat^l Sargent o
Hugh Reed o
Jo^r Frost o

N. B. the Persons markt Thus o against their Names were Present att the Election and ten Persons more were Present att the Elect^{rs} wch voted for Wm. Frost & Jon^a Lock but were not at home when this Petition was carried for them to Sign it.

Petition of Sundry of y^e Inhabitants of New Castle & Rye.

To the Hon^{bl} the House of Represent^{ves} of the Prov. of New Hamp^{re} now Siting at Portsm^o

Yo^r Petition^{rs} Humbly Shew,

That at a meeting of the Free Hold^{rs} of the Town of New Castle & Parrish of Rye at New Castle aforesaid on the Second Inst. to Chuse two meet Persons to Represent the Said

Town and Parrish in General Assembly—That Tho^s Bell & Rich^d Jenness Esqrs. wer chosen or said to be chosen for the Purpose above mentioned w^{ch} yo^r Petition^{rs} Conceive was Illegal for that Sundry Persons were admitted to Vote at said Meeting which were not Qualify'd as the Law Directs in Such Cases together with some other Illegal Practices used In order to obtain Said choice which may be made appear when the Hon^{ble} House shall be pleased to order A Hearing thereon w^{ch} we pray may be Granted as Early as will Suit with the Priviledges and Interests of those Libertys of which your Hon^{rs} are the Guard, and yo^r Petiti^{rs} further pray y^t upon the Proof of this their Complaint y^t the said Thomas Bell & Rich^d Jenness Esqrs. may be Dismist the House and y^t the said Town of New Castle and Parrish of Rye may have the Liberty of an other Choice and yo^r Petit^{rs} ass in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.

Jany. 5th 1748

- o W^m Frost
- o Will^m Sevey

his
W^m X Rand
mark

— ? Seavey
William Seavey Jun.
his

- o James X Shut
- mark
- his

Joseph X Sevea
mark

- o Joshua Rand
- Noah Shelburne
- o Jonathan Goss
- o Ebenezer Berry

- o Jonathan Marden
- o Thomas Goss
- o William Berry
- o William Marden
- Samuel Dwst
- Simon Knowles
- his

John X Salter
mark

- o James Marden
- o Zechariah Berry
- o Joseph Yeaton
- Samuel Berry
- his

Nehemiah X Berry
mark

Petition for aid in behalf of the Ministry.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for Said Province in General Assembly Convened May 27th 1748

The Humble Petition of Joseph Newmarch & Matthew Livermore Esqrs. as agents for the Town of New Castle in Said Province *Shews*

That by an Act made & pass'd in the twelfth year of His Late Majestys Reign Entituled an Act for the Settling & Establishing of two Parishes in the Town of New Castle, Among other things it is Enacted that in Consideration the

Meeting house at the Island is Conveniently Situated for the Soldiery Posted at his Majestys Fort William & Mary to Repair to for the Benefit of the Gospel-Ministry that there be twenty four pounds paid annually out of the Excise towards the Support of a Gospel Minister on the Said Island. That the said Grant has not been duly Complied with & paid which as the said Town & the Minister there have had hopes & Expectations of & Really wanted has been Detrimental to both and having a just claim to by the said act think that a farther Delay of the payment thereof will be keeping them ought of their Right & Still a greater Injury as the Nominal Sum is not a third part of the Real value it would have been if Seasonably & annually paid. Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their Principals Humbly Pray that the premises may be considered that they may be heard thereon & have leave to shew what is now justly due upon the said Grant & that the same and all arrearages thereof & whatsoever is due may be paid without further Delay and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever Pray &c.

JOSEPH NEWMARCH
MATTHEW LIVERMORE

Coun^l Eodem Die

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theodore Atkinson Secy

Prov of New } In the House of Representatives 28th May 1748
Hampshire } Voted That y^e Petitioners be heard on this Petition on
Fryday next at three o'clock P. M.

D. Peirce, Clr.

June 3^d 1748

Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition y^e Third Day
of y^e Setting of next Gen^l assembly.

D. Peirce Clr.

Rev. Mr. Blunt's Petition.

Province of To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
N. Hamp^r Governor & Commander in Chief In & over
His Majestys Province of New Hampshire
The Honorable His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Court Convened.

The Petition of John Blunt of New Castle in the Province
of New Hampshire Clerk Humbly *Shews*

That in the year of Our Lord 1726 a Law was pass'd by the
General Assembly of this Province wherein (among other things) it is Enacted that In Consideration that the
Meeting House on the Great Island is Conveniently Situated
for the Soldiers Posted at His Majesty's Fort William & Mary

that twenty four “Pounds per annum be paid out of the Excise towards the Support of a Gospel Minister on the said Island,” by virtue whereof & of your Petitioner’s sustaining that office there, he humbly conceives he has a just claim to the payment of the aforesaid Sum annually from the time of his Settlement in that Capacity, & that no Legal or Rational objection has ever been or can be made to the payment thereof so long as the Said Law Remains in being & full force which he also Conceives to be the Case & consequently that the non payment thereof yearly but much more the delay of doing it for so long a time as it has been your Petitioners Right is manifestly a Great Injury to him.

That your Petitioner thinks he has the same Claim to the aforesaid Sum of money as he would have had to any Real Estate Granted by the Same Authority which is no more weaken’d because not paid as it became due than in the case of a Real Estate because one that has no Right Keeps the Possession a few years which no man would pretend to, And that Denying a due Compliance with the acts of the Governm^t is not only a Breach of Public Faith, but of very ill Example to those who are the subjects of the Good & wholesome Laws of the Province.

That as your Petitioner in his Settlement had some Regard to the aforesaid grant it has been a Considerable Disappointment to him that it has not been punctually complied with as every Gentleman upon the least attention to the Circumstances of the said place must needs allow.

Wherefore your Petition^r most humbly Prays that Effectual Provision may now be made for the payment of what is in arrearage & due to him agreeable to the aforesaid Grant, & for the due & Seasonable payment thereof for the future, and your Petitioner as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

JN^o BLUNT.

March 1741

In the House of Representatives March the 10th 1741-2

The within Petition Read and Voted that the Petitioner be heard on Thursday next at three of the Clock in the afternoon

James Jeffry Clr. Ass^m

In Coun. March 11th 1741-2

Be forenoon

Read and Concurred

Rich^d Waldron sec.

Same day A: M:

assented to

B. WENTWORTH

An acco^t of the Persons y^t Voted at the Election of Representatives

for the Town of New Castle and Parrish of Rye att New Castle on the 2nd Day of Jan^{ry} 1748 wth the Petitiⁿ annex^d to this Referd too as Persons who Ware not Qualify'd to Vote in Said Choice and are as Followeth Viz:

Jn^o Randall
Jn^o Simpson
George ——— ?
W^m Neele
Sam^l Yetton
Sam^l Clark
Sam^l Card
Jn^o Card Jun^r
Edw^d Card
Henry Tredick
And^w Mace

Nath^l Batson
Mesheck or Benj^a Bell
Henry Dow
Francis Lock Jun^r
Sam^l Jinnins
Jo^s Jennins
Francis Jennins Jun^r
Jo^s Fuller
James Philbrick
Jn^o Rand

Petition of New Castle relating to a Lottery to build a Bridge.

To his Excellency the Governour of New Hampshire, The Honourable his Majestyes Council, and House of Representatives, in General Assembly conven'd.

We being appointed a Committee by the Inhabitants of the Town of New Castle in said Province, to Petition the said General assembly for the Priviledge of a Lottery in Order to enable us to build a Bridge over Little Harbour River as set forth in our Petition now before you, beg leave to offer these following Reasons for the same viz:

1. The only Barrier or Forte, by Sea, belonging to this Province is in New Castle, or on the Island called great Island, and the only Place by Sea, which is in danger of being Attack'd by a foreign Enemy.

2. We the Inhabitants of said Island, ordinarily, have not more than Men enough to take care of our wives and Children, and to convey them to a Place of Safety, in case of a Sudden Invasion.

3. It will be really Necessary for the Safety of this Province, more Especially for the Towns adjacent to said Island, That we be so accommodated as that a Sufficient number of men from the main may with speed and Conveniency, come to us for our defence and safety, in case we are suddenly invaded by a foreign Enemy.

4. We have not a sufficient number of Boats neither can we Expect that the Province will at their charge Provide and Keep in repair such a Number as may be Necessary to convey so many men to us as we shall need, in Case we are Distressed by an Enemy. Therefore

5. It is absolutely necessary that a Bridge be built over Little-

Harbour-River from Saunders Point on the Main to said Island.

And then

2. With regard to us the Inhabitants of said New Castle or great Island, We would observe, The flourishing and Prosperous State of any Town in a Province more Especially of a Barrier-Town, is for the good and wealfair of the whole Community.

3. Altho' said Island is a Barrier Town, yet, we, the Inhabitants, are but in low Circumstances considering our Long Standing.

4. The only way which we can think of at Present to retrieve our Circumstances, and to Enable us the better to bear a Part in the Defence and Support of the Government, is that we may have a free and Open Communication with the Inhabitants on the Main

5. And this, appears to us, can only be effected by building a Bridge over said River, and then the Inhabitants on the Main can bring and sell to us the Necessaries of Life, which will save us a great deal of time and expence; and which must if rightly improved by us increase our wealth and strength, and be no ways detrimental to our Neighbors.

Therefore for the Reasons above said with what we have suggested in our Petition now before you we Earnestly desire that the Prayer thereof may be Granted.

N. SARGENT	} Committee for the Inhabitants of New Castle.
JO ^s FROST	

New Castle April y^e 25th 1757.

New Castle Petition for a Lottery to build a bridge.

Province of	} To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq ^r Captain General Govenour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid, The Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province.
N. Hampshire	

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly *sheweth*,

Whereas your Petitioners for many years past have been great sufferers for want of a better Conveniency of passing from the great Island to the Continent and at some seasons of the year it is almost if not quite impracticable to pass to the Main and so for the People on the Main to come to us which is the reason why the Country People bring not to us the Necessaries of Life to Vend as otherwise they would do and our poorer

Families and Widdows who are not able to go abroad to provide for themselves are sometimes thereby brought into the greatest Straits and difficulties.

And inasmuch as the only Fortification of this Province by sea is and ever will be for anything we can discern on said Island, Therefore it is highly necessary for the safety of this Province as well as for the Inhabitants of said Island that a Bridge be Built across the River called Little Harbour River to the Main so that help with Speed and Conveniency may come to us in Case of an Invasion by a Foreign Enemy which in time of War we have reason to fear may be our unhappy Case, and also that our Wives and Children and others who are unable to Endure the fatigues of War may with greater Conveniency and Speed, Retreat to some place of safety.

Therefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that your Excellency with your Honours would consider our Petition and the Reasonableness of our Requests and grant us the Privilege of a Lottery in order to raise money to build a Bridge over said River.

Richard Yeaton
Allcock Stevens
Benjamin Bell
Henry Langmaid
Peter Grant
Robbart Neall
John Randle
William Mordantt
Nat Sargent Jun^r
Abraham Trefethen
Jos Frost
Stephen Chase
W^m Branscombe
Samuel Sheafe
Stephen Barton
Meshach Bell
William Naal
Nath^l Batson
John Neall

Rich^d Kenney
William Trefethen
Robert White
Joshua Chase
Jn^o Blunt
W^m Blunt
Paul Randall
Sam^l Jackson
Nathaniel Lear
Robert Seldon
James Randall
William Tucker
Daniel Moulton Jun^r
Joseph Sargent
Christopher Prichard
Shadrach Bell
Benjamin Meloon his hand
Solomon White.

In Council Feb^y 23, 1757

read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
Theor^r Atkinson Secy.

Province of) In the House of Representatives Feb^y 26th 1757 This Pe-
New Hamp } tion having been read

Resolved That the Petitioners be heard thereon the second day of the setting of the General Assembly next after the first Day of April next & that the Petitioners at their own Cost & charge Cause the Substance of said Petition with this order of Court to be advertized In the New Hampshire Gazette four weeks successively that any person or persons may appear if they please & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof should not be Granted.

Andrew Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurr^d

Theo^d Atkinson Secy.

NEW DURHAM.

[Incorporated 17 Dec. 1762. See Kingswood. ED.]

At a public meeting of the Proprietors of New Durham in the Province of New Hampshire legally notified, holden at the meeting house at Durham falls in s^d province on monday the 30th day of Decemb^r 1765 at 2 o'clock P. M. then & there the s^d proprietors made choice of Maj^r Thomas Tash and Capt. Thomas Chesle as a Committee to apply to the general Court of s^d Province to see if s^d Court will pass an act to Impower the s^d Proprietors to sell so much of the land of the delinquent proprietors as shall pay their proportion of the charges to be defrayed by s^d propriety

Tho^s Tash prop^s Clark

A true Coppy

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable Council and Representatives of Said Province.

The Humble Petition of Thomas Tash and Thomas Cheslee, In Behalf of the Proprietors of New Durham *Sheweth*

That Whereas a Great Number of the Proprietors of said New Durham have been Delinquent in paying their proportion of the Necessary Charges that have already arisen on account of the Settlement of Said Town, and it is highly probable s^d Delinquents will be as unwilling to pay any Necessary Charge that may hereafter arise; Therefore the Burden must Consequently Lay on such of said propriety as are most willing to promote said Town and the Settlement thereof.

We therefore most Humbly Shewe, That at a Legal Meeting of Said proprietors held on the 30th Day of December A. D. 1765 it was Voted that we the said Thomas Tash & Thomas Chesley should be a Committee to apply to your Excellency and your honours, in order to obtain an act to Impower the said proprietors or their Collectors to Sell the Rights of Said Delinquent proprietors or Such a Part thereof as shall be Sufficient to pay their Respective proportions of Such Necessary Charges.

Your Petitioners Earnestly hope your Excellency and Honours will Take our prayer into your wise Consideration and procure Such a Remedy as your Excellency & Honours in your Great wisdom Shall think proper, and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray.

THOM^s TASH
THOM^s CHESLE

New Durham September 10th 1767

Province of } In the House of Representatives Sep^r 12th 1767
 New Hamp^{sh} } The within Petition being Considered and it appear-
 ing Reasonable to grant Relief in such Cases

Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty to Bring in a Bill for the Purpose within mentioned

M. Weare, Cl^k

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurr'd

T. Atkinson Jun Sec^y

NEWMARKET.

Papers relating to Newmarket & Newmarket Bridge.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties province of New Hampshire in New england in America and the Honourable His Majesties Council and the Honourable the House of Representatives in General Court Convend.

We the Subscribers Conceiving it will be for the great advantage of this province in general as well as for our Perticler Interest & for the Benefit of the inhabitants of the Several towns to which we respectively belong that there Should be a Bridge over the River which devides Saretham & New Market where the Ferry is Now Kept or a little higher up the River at the place cald the New field do humbly petition this honourable Cort for license to Build a Strong & Substantial Bri'ge thereon sufficient for teams to Pass & Repass laden, and if your Excellency and Honours will vouchsafe to take the matter under your wise Consideration and permit us to offer to your wise Consideration the Resons Inducing us to offer this our petition we doubt not you will Readily grant us the license for which we hereby make Humble Request. By which grant you will greatly oblige your most humble Supplicants the inhabitants of this province of New hampshire as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray. we the Subscribers Sign with that reserve that s^d bridge be no hendrance to vesels & Rafts of any kind Passing & Repassing up & down S^d River

November 21st 1746

Richard Calley
 Eforom Levett
 Stephen Thusen
 Samuel Levett
 Jonathan Fifield
 John Levett
 Samuel Levett

John Clark
 Solmon Cotton
 John Thusten
 Benjamin Cotton
 Efrom Greenan
 Thomas Vesey
 William Bruce of Durham

Moses Thriston
 Sam^l Clark
 William Davis
 Walter Wiggins
 Eliphalet Wiggins
 John Wille Jun^r
 Joshua Hill
 Samuel Piper
 Tarfen ? Wiggin
 David Haneford
 James Daves
 Thomas Brier
 Daniel Mason Jr
 John Barker
 John Daves
 Thomas Wiggin Jr.

Henry Wiggin
 Josiah Piper
 Jonathan Piper
 William Borley Jun^r
 Richard Crockett
 Thomas Wiggin
 John Wiggin
 William French
 Andrew French
 Bradstreet French
 William French Jun^r
 Thomas French
 Samuel Wiggin
 Eliphalet Wiggin
 William Moores

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour and
 Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of
 New Hampshire in New England and the Honourable His
 Majesties Council and the House of Representatives for
 Said Province.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Nottingham &c
 Humbly *Sheweth*

That this and Several other Towns in this Province are ex-
 posed to Great Difficulties being Separated from the Metrop-
 olis and the Main Body of the Settled Part of this Province
 by a narrow River Running between Stratham and New Mar-
 ket which Lais us under a Necessity to travel many miles
 Round the Head or Else Cross said River at a Ferry which is
 often times Not Less Difficult and at Certain Seasons of the
 year is altogether Impracticable and is always so for Carte
 and Teams.

We therefore Conceiving that it will be for the Great Ad-
 vantage of this Province in General as well as for our Particu-
 lar Interest and for the Benefit of the Several Towns Scituated
 near said River that there Should be a Bridge over said River
 where the Ferry is kept or a Little Higher up at the Place
 Commonle Called the New Field Do Humbly Petition your
 Excellency and Honours that there may be a Licence for a
 Good Substantial Bridge there Sufficient for Teams to Pass
 over Loaded. The many Great advantages which would
 accrue to the Publick by such a Bridge will we Doubt not
 Enduce this Hon^{ble} Court to Grant us the Priviledge for which
 we hereby humbly make Request which will Greatly oblige
 your most Humble Supplicants who Shall as in Duty Bound
 Ever Pray &c: .

Nottingham Nov. 21, 1746.

Abraham Rowell
 Daniel Elkins
 Ebenezer Dow
 John Pormort
 Thomas Ford
 his
 William X Kennison
 mark
 John Mill
 John Bartlett
 Joseph Cally
 Jon^a Longfellow
 James Bean
 Edward Bean Jun^r
 Jonathan Norris
 David Lawrens
 James Whidden
 Jonathan Crosbie
 Nathan Pilsbery
 James Morrison
 his
 David X Morrison
 mark

Joseph Beverlin
 his
 Andrew X Simpson
 mark
 Nathaniel Goodhue
 John M^rCries
 John M^rCries Jun^r
 Frances Harvey
 John McCleary
 Israel Bartlett
 his
 William X Morrison
 mark
 James Maxweel
 Rob^t Harvey
 Matthew Neley
 John Harvey
 Thomas Harvey
 Edward Bean
 Simon Baird
 John Redman

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and
 Captain general in Chief in and over his majestys Province
 of New hampshire and to his majestys Council and the hon-
 ourable house of Representatives in general Court Convened.

We the subscribers Conceiving it will be for the great ad-
 vantage of this Province in general as well as for our own par-
 ticular Interest and for the benefit of the Inhabitants of the
 Several Towns to which we respectively belong that there
 should be a bridge over the river which Divides Stratham and
 New Market where the ferry is now kept or a little higher up
 the river at the Place Called the New field Do humbly Peti-
 tion this honourable Court for License to build a Strong and
 Substantial bridge there Sufficient for Teams to pass and repass
 Laden and if you will Vouchsafe to take the matter under your
 Consideration and permit us to offer to your Consideration the
 reasons Inducing us to offer this our petition we doubt not
 you will readily grant us the Licence for which we hereby
 make humble request by which grant you will greatly Oblige
 your most humble Supplicants, the Inhabitants as in Duty
 bound shall ever pray.

Dated Nov^r 21st 1746

Rob^t Smart
 Sam^l Miles
 Jon^a Colkit
 Jon^a Colkit Jun^r
 Jon^a Colkit

Joseph Chapman
 Walter Neel
 Sam^l Neel
 Rich^d Clark
 Caleb Clark

David Hanes
 Jo^a Jedkins
 Josiah Persons
 Tho^a Young Sr.
 Charles Smart
 Joseph Smart
 John Burley
 Jam^a Burley
 Jam^a Burley Jun^r
 Josiah Burley
 Joseph Burley
 Isaac Maston
 Andrew Burley
 W^a Burley
 Edward Hilton
 Josiah Hilton
 Wentworth Hilton
 Fitz W^a Sergeant
 John Bennet
 Joseph Burley Jun.
 Jo^a Elice
 Nath^a Piper
 Peter Folsom
 Rob^t Pike
 Charles Hilton
 Thom^a Gilman
 Rob^t Barber
 Sam^a Sinkler
 John Sanborn
 Nath^a Pees
 Sam^a Stevens
 Jon^a Bachler
 Ezekiel Sanborn
 Joseph Sinklar
 W^a Crocket
 Jon^a Robinson
 Joseph Robinson
 Joseph Gilman Jr.
 Thom^a Sinkler
 Const^a Gilman
 Joshua Sanborn
 Tim^a Gilman
 Joseph Gliden
 Abner Cofin
 Nathan Folsom
 John Meder
 Ichabod Whidden
 Thom^a Bennet
 James Goodwin
 Jam^a Goodwin Jun.
 Sam^a Rolins
 Jam^a Rolins
 Sam^a Brecket
 Hope Cheswill
 Sam^a Doe
 Israel Folsom
 John Kenneston
 Francis Durgan

W^a Durgan
 James Kenneston
 Sam^a Dooly
 Thom^a Packer
 Nicholas Doe
 Daniel Hilton
 Jacob Burley
 Samson Doe
 Benj^a York
 Benj^a York Jun.
 Thom^a Young
 Joseph Jedkins
 Thom^a York
 John Neel
 Abnez^a Neel
 Nathan Presby
 Ephraim Sanborn
 Jacob Tilton
 John Wedgewood
 John Pender
 John Fose
 Edward Fose
 David Litefoot
 Daniel Ames
 Simon Ames
 David Ames
 Jacob Ames
 Joseph Hall
 Edward Hail
 Arthur Slade
 James Maston
 Nath^a Ames
 Rob^t Perkins
 Jo^a Miles
 Benj^a Smart
 Giles Burley
 W^a Perkans
 Jon^a Hilton
 Philip Herris
 Jo^a Hilton
 Tim^a Emerson
 Bartes Metoon
 Joseph Hilton
 Joseph Young
 Joseph Midcalf
 John Birgan
 Rich^d Matoon
 Benj^a Thomson
 John Hersey
 James Hersey
 John Perkans
 John Perkans Jun^r
 John Folsom
 Andrew Folsom
 W^a Folsom
 Jo^a Barber
 John Barber Jun^r
 Andrew Wiggan

Joseph Wiggan
Edward Fose
Benj^r Fose
Sam^l Chapman
John Talor

Joⁿ Palmer
Groth. Palmer
Ephraim Folsom
Ephraim Folsom Jr.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief in over His Majestys province of new hampshier in new England in America and the Honorable His majestys Council & the Honorable House of Representatives in Court Convened.

We the Subscribers Conceiving it will be for the Great advantage of this province in general as well as for our one Particular Intrest & for the Benefit of the Inhabitants of the Several Towns to which we respectively belong that there should be a Bridg over the river which divides Stratham and new market where the Ferry is now Kept or a little higher up the river at the place called the new field wee do humbly Petition this honorable Court for Leicence to Build a Strong & Substantile Bridg sufficient for tams to pass & Repase, to take the matter under your Consideration & permit us to offer to your Consideration the reasons Inducing us to offer this our petition, we Doubt not you will readiely Grant us the Licence for which we hearby make humble Request by which Grant you will Greatly oblige your most humble supplicats, the Inhabitants as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray.

Joshua Brackett
John Brackett
Nathaniel Brackett
James Urin
Joseph Jones
Joseph Melune
Joseph Melune Jun.
Henery Melune
Enoch Clark
Ebenezer Cates
James Cates
Jonathan Dockem
Jonathan Dockem Jun.
John Dockem
Bengman Dockem
Robert Rolens
James Brackett
Daniel Lunt
Joseph Berry
William Stevens
Joseph Haines
John Haines
William Haines

James Johnson
Anthony Pickrein
Nath^l Doe
Nath^l Grow
Abithar Sanborn
John Hoag Jun^r
Nathaniel rite White
Samuel Haines
Thomas Ains
Charley ? Johnson
Jonathan Thomas
Stephen Gilman
Anthony Pickerin
Abner Haines
Sam^l Nutter
Pitman Colbath
James Berry
William Samson
Robart Bryen
John Allen
Daniel Doues
John Johnson

In Council December the 1746

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House together with the three other Petitions for the same affair here unto annexed

Theo^d Atkinson Sec^y

Prov of } In the House of Representatives Dec 6th 1746
New Hamp^{re}

Voted That the within Petitioners be heard on their Petition y^e second Day of y^e setting of y^e Gen^l Assembly after y^e seventeenth Day of Jan. next & that y^e Petitioners at their own expence advertise y^e publick three Weeks successively between this Day & y^e aforesaid 17th of Janu^r (in y^e Postboy & Evening Post News Papers so called) of y^e Tenor of y^e Prayer of said Petitions (Viz) that there may Liberty be granted for Building a good sufficient Draw Bridge over Exeter River at Wiggins's Ferry so called or at y^e New Field at y^e proper Cost & charge of y^e Petitioners that any or every one may have opportunity to shew Cause if any they have why y^e Prayer of s^d Petitions should not be granted.

D. Peirce Cl^r

In Council December 7th 1746

read & Concurr'd

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

December 11th 1746

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Where as Sum of the Inhabitence of Several townes within this Province have Petitioned the Gen^l Court to Grant Liberty for the bulding of a bridge over Exeter River Between Stratham and New market and the Gen^l Court having apointed a Day for the hearing of s^d Petitioners, Lebery being Given for all persons to apear that are against said Bredge being built to Shew ther Resons against the same.

At a Leagal parish meeting held at Brintwood on Monday the 16th Day of March 1747 at the hous of Nicolas Gorden in s^d parish Voted that there be no bredge built between Stratham and Newmarkit by Reson we apprehend it will be a Great Damneag both to the trade and fishere
Copy Exam'd

Biley Hardie parish Clarck

May y^e 18th 1747.

Province of } In Pursuance of a vote of General Assembly of y^e
New Hamp^{re} } 4 Instant We the Committee Have been and Viewed the places as mentioned in a petition for building a Sufficient Draw bridge over the River between new market and Stratham and we have unanemusley agreed that the bridge be built over said River to begin to be built about twenty foote below a white Pine tree Standing about the ferry place on Wigginses land and so to Run as straight over or across said River to Robert Smarts land as it can be built for Conveniency of Setting Said bridge. The Distance between the Peers under the Draw bridge to be twenty six foote and the Distance between the Pears for Rafts and other Necessary to be forty or fifty foot and the tops of the Caps between these vacancies to be Seven foot above high water mark in a middling tide the width of the aforesaid bridge to be Eighteen foote wide between The rails of s^d bridge from end to end.

This is our Report In this affair of said Bridge

Sam^l Smith
John Downing
Richard Jenness
Jonathan Chase
Joseph Wadleigh

} Committee

In Council May 27, 1747

The above report read & ordered to be sent to the Hon^{ble} House
Theo^{ls} Atkinson sec.

Province of } In the House of Representatives 29th May 1747
New Hampshire } Voted That y^e within Report be received & approved with y^e following amendments, that y^e Draw Part of s^d Bridge be twenty eight feet wide & y^e Passage for Rafts forty five feet wide that the Petitioners build y^e Bridge Keep it in Repair & procure convenient Ways to & from y^e Bridge & all at their own expence.

D. Peirce Clr.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi magnæ Britanniaë Franciæ & Hiberniæ Vicessimo.

An Act for Erecting and maintaining a Bridge over the River at New Market.

Whereas Many of the Inhabitants of New Market Stratham and other Places within this Province have Petitioned the General Assembly Representing that the Passing over the ferry at New Market is attended with Great Difficulty for a Considerable part of the year by Reason of the frost, That a Bridge over the River there would be of Great use to those Places and all the Neighboring Towns And Praying that they might have Liberty to Erect a Bridge there accordingly which they would do at their own Cost. Which Petition having Been Considered and it appearing that a Good Bridge at the Said Place will be of General Service and Convenience:

Be it therefore Enacted By His Excellency the Governor Council and Representatives in General Assembly Convened and by the Authority of the Same, That the Petitioners aforesaid and Such others as shall join with them therein shall have Liberty to Erect and Build a Good Strong and Convenient Bridge over the River at New Market and Stratham to run from about Twenty foot below a white pine Tree Standing a Little way above the Ferry place on the Land of Andrew Wiggin strait a Cross the River to the Land of Robert Smart on New Market Side on the following Terms and Directions that is to say that it Run as Strait a Cross the River from and to the Place aforesaid as it may be for the Conveniency of Setting and Laying the foundation thereof in the River, that the Said Bridge be Built on Peers set at Convenient Distance form'd in the Best manner for passage Between them that a Passage for Vessels Gundelos Rafts and other water Carriage be Left where the Deepest water is of forty five feet wide Between the Peers, that a part of the said Bridge be made to Draw in the most Convenient manner twenty eight feet wide for the Passage of Vessels That the said bridge be built with Rails on the Top on Each Side and to be eigh teen feet wide between the Rails that the Tops of the Caps between the Vacancies be seven feet above high Water in a Middleing Tide and that all the said Bridge be Built in a strong workmanlike manner at the Cost of the Petitioners and others as aforesaid and so maintained and Kept in Repair and that they Procure and get Laid out all such Convenient Ways and Passages to and from Said Bridge as shall be wanting and Necessary and that the Draw Part of sad Bridge be made so that it may Conveniently be Drawn by two men.

Province of } In the House of Representatives 3^d June 1747
 New Hamp^{sr} } The foregoing Bill having been Read three Times
 Voted That it pass to be enacted.

John Sanborn Speaker pro Tempore

In Council June the 4th 1747

The foregoing Bill Read three Times and past to be enacted.

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Eodem Die

I assent to the enacting this Bill

B. WENTWORTH

Copy Examined

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

*Exeter's Answers to Stratham and New Market's Petition
 for a Bridge.*

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
 New Hampshire } Esq^r Captain-Generall, Governor and
 Commander in Chief in and over his
 Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon^{ble} his
 Majesty's Councill And house of Representatives Convened
 in Generall Assembly.

Humbly Shews

The Freeholders & Inhabitants of Exeter by their Agents the
 Subscribers hereof That whereas Notice hath lately been
 given in the Publick Prints That the Towns of Newmarket
 Stratham & Towns Adjacent have Petitioned your Excellency
 and this Hon^{ble} Court Praying Liberty to Build a Strong Sub-
 stantiall Draw Bridge over the river that Divides said Stratham
 and New Market at the Ferry place in Said Stratham or a Lit-
 tle above, And your Excellency & hon^{rs} having ordered said
 Petitioners a hearing of their Petitions on the Second day of
 the Sitting of this Court after the Seventeenth day of January
 then next and that said Petitioners give Public notice Thereof.

Whereupon we the Subscribers agents as aforesaid on behalf
 of our Constituants as well as for our Selves Most Humbly
 Crave Leave to offer the Following reasons why the Prayer of
 said Petitions Should not be Granted, (Viz:)

1st For that the building such a Bridge would in a Great
 measure Stop the Course of the Fish Especially the Bass
 which Providence has hitherto yearly supplyd us with great
 Quantities of to the Great Support of our selves and Towns
 above us, and many Poor Familys, if the Course of the Fish
 be Stopped will be Likely thereby to be Great sufferers.

2^{dly} For that whereas the said river having been free Ever
 since The settling the Town of Exeter (upwards of one hun-
 dred years) for the passing and repassing of Vessels from

hence to Portsmouth & Boston and other Ports, and there being Generally water sufficient for the passing and repassing of any Vessell of one hundred Tons Loaden whereby this Town as well as the Towns above it have reaped great advantages By means of Transporting their Lumber and by having return'd to them by the same Vessels. The Provisions and Necessaries for the Support of Life & for Commerce and Trade with Each other; Which the building of the aforesaid bridge would greatly hurt, if not Totally Stop, & also Prevent Carrying on the building of Vessells in the Town of Exeter which they have as Just a right to do as any other Towns in the Province.

3^{aly} For that the Free use and Priviledge of That river to the head thereof was the Principal reason and Cause of Peoples settling so far into the Country and Defending their Settlements in such Dangerous & Difficult times as have been since the Settlement of the Same and was also an Incouragement to the Inhabitants of Kingston and other Towns to Settle Farther into the Country they hoping to Enjoy the Benefit of Transporting their Lumber in this river without such an Incumbrance as the Proposed bridge would be. And now if the Prayer of the Petition should be granted Those invaluable Priviledges which the respondents have so Long Enjoyed and so highly Prised (more than any other part of their Estates) would in a great measure if not Totally be cutt off and would be more Damage to the Town of Exeter and other Towns above it Than to Maintain men and Boats forever to carry over the Petitioners and Every thing they have as often as they please to remove, and Cannot be of such Service to the Petitioners as to Equal the Damage that would be consequent upon it. Neither would the Petitioners themselves be willing that any such Incumbrance should be made upon the river below their Landing places to prevent the Free passage of Vessels to them.

Neither is it likely if Possible for the Petitioners to make and maintain & Duly attend Such a Bridge in such manner as to Lett all Vessells pass and repass in said river For Vessels going up & Down swiftly with a strong tide cannot come to anchor and wait for any Persons to come and open the Passage for them without great Difficulty & Danger and Damage more than can be at Present Discerned.

4^{thly} For that the building the aforesaid Bridge would be a great Impediment to the Conveying Down to Portsmouth the Mast Trees which are Yearly Procured in & brought to the Town of Exeter for his Majestys use. and would also make it very Dangerous to pass with Vessells rafts & Gundelows in the Narrow Passage of Thirty foot. For the Straitening of the river must of Consequence Cause the Current to run very

swift and Rapid and thereby Greatly Endanger the Lives of the People as well as the Loss of their Vessels Lumber and Gundelows.

5^{ly} We humbly Conceive that the Granting the Prayer of the Petition by this hon^{ble} Court will not only be a Depriving of our Constituants as well as the Towns above us, and others, of their Lawfull right & Priviledge but also be a Leading Example for other Injuries of the like nature and be a much Greater Injury to the Province in Generall Than Benefitt to the Petitioners or others, in That it would cause the People of this Town and the Towns above us Instead of Transporting their Lumber to Portsmouth to Convey the Same to Haverhill and Newbury and thereby very greatly obstruct the Trade of this Province.

We do therefore Humbly Intreat That your Excellency & this Hon^{ble} Court will duely Consider the foregoing reasons and what we may Further Crave Leave to offer why the Prayer of the said Petitions should not be Granted Considering the many bad Consequences it might be attended with, and humbly hope and Desire That Your Excellency and hon^{rs} will in your great wisdom Prevent the Same by not Granting the Prayer of said Petition.

EZEKIEL GILMAN
DANIEL GILMAN
NICH^l PERRYMAN

Jedediah Philbrick Agent for and in behalf of the Town of Kingston in said Province humbly craves Leave to present the foregoing answers or reasons made in behalf of y^e Town of Exeter as answers for and in behalf of said Town of Kingston it being their Grievances & Dangers truly Expressed & for y^e same reasons pray that the Prayer of the Petition for building a Bridge over y^e river betwixt Stratham & New Market may not be Granted

Jed Philbrick

At a Meeting of the free holders & Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter holden at the Town house in s^t Town Jan^y 19th 1746-7 Whereas notice hath been Given in the publick prints that New Market Stratham & several of the adjacent Towns have petition'd the Gen^l Court of this Province for Liberty to build a bridge Crost the River that parts Newmarket & Stratham at the ferry or a Little above & that the s^t Petitioners are to be heard on s^t petition on the Second Day of s^t Courts next Setting & those that are ag^t the Prayer of s^t Petitions being Granted are in s^t Prints notified to appear to Show Cause ag^t the Granting the Prayer of s^t Petitions,

Voted M^r Nich^l Perryman Maj^r Ezekel Gilman & Cap^t Daniel Gilman be agents that they or Either of them appear in behalf of the Town to Shew Cause why the Prayer of the Petitions should not be Granted..

A true Copy

Zebulon Giddings Townclerk

Reply to Exeter's Objections.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Gen^l Gov^r & Command^r in Chief the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Represen^{ts} for the Prov^e of New Hamp^{sh}.

The Reply of the Petitioners for a Bridge over the River at New Market to the Objections made by the agents of the Town of Exeter.

1st It is objected a bridge would stop the course of the fish &c. This is w^t the objectors cannot prove, it is Gratis dictum, nor does it carry probability with it that an open Bridge as this is proposed to be. should stop the passage of Fish only by having a few Piers standing in the River. it may with almost Equal truth be said, that ships & Vessels in the River Stop the Course of the fish, & so there should none of them be Suffer'd to pass besides the advantage made by fishing at the head of the River is too Inconsiderable to be put in the Scale against the advantage of such a bridge.

2 their second Objection supposes that the building this bridge would prevent all trade &c. it is not fair to suppose the case other ways than it Really is, or will be. An open Bridge will not prevent trade, passing & Repassing with Vessels &c. a bridge may be so Contrived as to be very little Impediment to that. Some Inconveniencys allways attend the building of Bridges. and if none was to be built but only where there should be no Inconveniency attending there will never be another built & if that had been the Rule of judging concerning those that have been done, there never would have been one made over a River But in Such a Case the Greater Public Benefit is to have the Preference if the building the bridge will serve 100 People in the Course of a year to the Same Degree it disserves or prejudices 99 the Bridge ought to be built, that a bridge can be so made as to be very little Damage to the passage on the River, we need only to look about us, & see what has been done in other places. Vessels of near 100 Ton pass & Repass London bridge (as well as many other places) tho' they are forced to strike their Masts. yet the trouble was not tho't Equal to the advantage of the Bridge. As to the Lumber Trade tis well Known it Decreases every year at Exeter. Lumber bro't out of the Conuntry is carry'd to other places more than to Exeter, & if this Bridge is built more will come over it or to it. in one year than come down the River from Exeter in three.

3 their third objection is but little different from the 2^d it supposes that there could be no passing the Bridge. without Insuperable difficulties, which is only beging the Question, the Petitioners think a Bridge may be so contrived as to be no other Impediment in passing but only a few Minutes time & a

little care and they have the Examples of other places & People to support them in their Opinion, as to what they say about the Inducem^t to Settle at Exeter it is a great mistake for they settled there as soon as at Portsmⁿ for the sake of the falls for Grist Mills & not for the Sake of transporting Lumber to Portsmⁿ when every man there might cut it at his own door or within a few Rods of the River.

4th their 4th objection is still the Same only to make it a little more formidable, the Mast Trees are bro't in & His Majestys name made use of, and is it more difficult for a Mast tree to Swim under a Bridge than for a Gundeloo of wood or a Raft of Boards, what may easily pass as the bridge may be contrived. But how many mast trees are bro't to the head of Exeter River in a year, & those that are might with as Little Difficulty be hal'd below this Bridge & would be so was the bridge erected, but this objection was made only to fright People with those Potent words *his Majesty's use*, and to carry a more frightful idea they Suggest the Lives of the People would be in danger which is nothing but suggestions.

5 The fifth Objection Relates to the depriving People of their Privilege, this objection operates Equally in all other cases of this nature & if attended to, no bridge had ever been built nor tyde mills, nor any works upon Rivers which makes the passage more difficult for they are always some disadvantage to those whose Estates lay above such works, and 'tis almost impossible but that every Public work is a prejudice to Particular Persons, the Repair of a Bridge that the Public maintains, is a prejudice to the Owners of the Lands adjoining & yet it shall be done & the Law will give them no Remedy Because Private Right must give way to the Public advantage, and if it is considered what a great advantage this Bridge must be to two thirds of the People in the four old Towns, & all the new settle^m above New Market Durham Dover &c. both in peace & war what is the little difficulty of the trading part of Exeter & those concerned with them in comparison of the advantages of such a bridge which are so plain they need not be mentioned the wisdom of all well ordered Governments have Esteemed such Buildings a Great advantage & if it be fact that more of the vessels which fetch Lumber from Exeter Stop at the place proposed for this bridge & Raft it down which may be easily prov'd, this Lessens the Difficulty to those that object, as to many of the People brot in as objectors it is plain they proceed only on this principle that it will be some charge to them as they fear, upon the whole it is Humbly Submitted whether the advantages will not abundantly over Balance the supposed disadvantages, by

ISRAEL GILMAN } In behalf of
himself & Petitioners

Petition of Inhabitants of Stratham against the bridge.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
 New Hampshire } Esq^r Captain General Governor and Com-
 mander in Chief In and over his Majes-
 ties Province of New Hampshire, To the
 Hon^{ble} his Majesties Councill & house of
 Representatives Convened in Generall
 Assembly.

Humbly *Sheweth* the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabit-
 ants of the Town of Stratham in Said Province

That Whereas we have Lately heard That a Number of
 Persons have Petitioned This Hon^{ble} Court for Liberty to build
 a Bridge over the river at or near the Ferry place in Stratham
 and New Market, We Humbly Conceive that the building of
 such a Bridge would Greatly obstruct the Trade and Fishery
 of this Province in Generall as well as Damnify many Poor
 People in their Private Interests. Wherefore we humbly Pray
 that Your Excellency & Hon^{rs} will not Grant the Prayer of the
 said Petition.

Richard Sinkler
 Joseph Smita
 Richard Palmer
 John Cole
 Benja Norris
 Jonathan Sibley
 Thomas Chase
 John Robinson
 Stephen Leavitt
 William Tomson
 James Leavitt
 Joshua Rowlings
 Joseph Rawlings
 Bradstreet Wiggin
 John Mead
 John Honneford
 Edward Mason
 Jonathan Cldrk Jun.

Benjamin Palmer
 Joseph Palmer
 Owen Rennles
 Thomas Rennles
 Jonathan Clark senior
 James Robinson
 David Stevens
 Matthew Tomson
 Matthew Tomson Senior
 William Mead
 John Clark
 Joseph Clark
 Joseph Hoit
 Joseph Hoit Jr.
 John Wadleigh
 William Chase
 Joseph Smith
 John Speed

Petition of Inhabitants of Kensington against the bridge.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captⁿ Gen^l Gov-
 ernour and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties}
 Province of New Hampshire, To the hon^{ble} his maj^{ties} Coun-
 cil and Representatives in gen^l Assembly Convened.

Humbly *Shew* the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Par-
 ish of Kensington in s^d Province That we having heard of
 Petitions being preferred to your Excellency and hon^{rs} for
 building a bridge Cross the river at or near Stratham & New

Market ferry, the building whereof we humbly apprehend will greatly obstruct the trade and fishery of this Province as also deprive many of his Majesties Loyal Subjects of their Just rights and Priviledges.

Wherefore we most humbly pray your Excellency and Hon^{rs} that the prayer of s^d Petition may not be Granted.

Jeremiah Fogg
Abraham Baelder
Hezekiah Swain
Simon Bachelder
Benjamin Prescottt
Nathanael Prescottt
Abraham Haskell
Abraham Moulton
Jethro Bachelder
David James
John Shearburne
Benjamin Row
Caleb Shaw
Jonathan Hutchinson
Johnson Hoshison
Timothy Hoshison
John Chapman ?
Moses Blake Junr
Jonahan Pulsifer
Isaac Healmes?

Thomas Knolteon
Samuel Bean
Isaiah Green
Philemon Blake
Jeremiah Green
Benjamin Cram
Joseph Pike
Jeremiah Easman
Ezekiel Worthen
Jonathan Cram
Nehemiah Brown

George Conner
Moses Bleak
Joseph Tilton
Robert Row
Abraham Samborn
Joseph Wadleigh
John Been
Joseph Wadleigh jun.
Jonathan Prescottt
Jonathan Fellows
Samuel Clifford
Isaac Fellows Jun.
Abner Fellows
James Prescottt
Henery Sauborn
Benjamin Page
Jeremiah Fellows
Samuel Blake Jun.
Joseph Chase Hilyard
Shurborn Tilton
James Fogg
Moses Samborn
Benjamin James
Israel James
John Page
Jonathan Garland
Joshua Gilman
Stephen Hobs
Noah Hobs
Nathl Healey
Jeremiah Samborn
Edward Black

Petition of Inhabitants of Hampton falls against the bridge.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire and to the hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Council and Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled.

Humbly *Sheweth*

the Subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of Hampton falls in s^d Province that having heard or seen in the Newspaper that Petitions have been preferred to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} for building a bridge Cross the River at or near Stratham

& Newmarket ferry and we Considering the many Ill consequences of building Such a bridge by obstructing the trade and fishery of the Province in general and also the depriving of many of their Just rights & priviledges—We Humbly pray that your Excellency and Hon^{rs} will dismiss the s^d Petitions and not grant them.

Amos Leavitt
Abner Sanborn
John Green
Bradbury Green
Jonathan Chase
Saml Shaw
Thomas Browu
John George
Benjamin Sanborn
Ralph Butler
Benjamin Moulton
Benjamin Cram
Daniel Brown
John Brown
Saml Lane
Matthew Morton
Benjamin Swett
Joseph Batchelder
John Batchelder
Jotham Batchelder
Joseph Sanborn
Edward Sargent
Ruben Sanborn
Reuben Sanborn Jr
Stephen Swain
Jethro Tilton
John Tilton
Benja Tilton
James Prescott
John Brown
Jeremiah Benet
Caleb Shaw

Charles Stuard
Enoch Barker
Jonathan Brown
Benjamin Shaw
John French
Wm Stickney
Saml Melcher
Samuell Melcher Junr
James Moulton
Richard Moulton
Benja Moulton
Jona Tilton
Nathan Tilton
his
samll X Fifield
mark
David Tilton
Nath Healey
Samuel Tilton
Stephen Healey
Jacob Green
Jonathan Green
Joseph Prescott
Benjamin Prescott
Philemon Prescott
Jeremiah Prescot
Joseph Sanborn 3d
Benja Swett
Daniel Sanborn
Josiah Batchelder
Ebuczer Prescott
Nathan Sanborn

Petition of Inhabitants of Epping against the Bridge.

Province } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
of New Hamp. } Captain General, Governor & Commander
in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. To the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council and house of Representatives Convened in Generall Assembly

Humbly Shew

The Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Eppin in said Province That

Whereas we have heard that a Number of Persons have

Lately Petitioned this Hon^{ble} Court for Liberty to build a Bridge over the river at or near the Ferry place in Stratham & Newmarket,

We Humbly Conceive That the building of said Bridge would be not only a great Damage to many poor people in their Private Interests, But would also be a Grievous obstruction to the Trade and Fishery of this Province in Generall.

Wherefore we humbly Pray that your Excellency & Hon^{rs} will not Grant the Prayer of said Petition.

John Marden
Edward Elkins
John Robinson
Jeremiah Elkins
Joel Judkins
Timothy Morgan
Jeremiah Prescott
Samuel Elkins
James Norris Junr
John Noris
Jonathan Gliden
William Eten
Joseph Norris
Moses Smart
Jediah Black
John Fulton
Obadiah Worth
Elexander Robrison
Wilyam Pre-cut
Joseph Gordon
John Dudley
Collin Thing
Edward Thing
Benningmen Rolins
Daniel Grant
Benja Phillbrick
Jonathan Gilman Junr
Joseph Thing
Edward Stevens
John Drobson ?

Simon Garland
Moses Norris
Jnotham Norris
Daniel Homen
James Noris
Isrel Gilman
Nathan Hoit
Theophilus Wadleigh
Jonathan Randlet
Israel Blake
Samuel Smith
Ithiel Clifford
Saml Connor
John Merridge
Josiah Noris
Abraham Folsom
Elias Smith
Ezekiel Brown
David Joy
John York
Abraham Brown
John Rowell
John Page
David Page
Jonathan Norris Junr
Jonathan Folsom
Thomas Burley
James Alexander
Abner Been
Jonathan Smith

*Copy of a vote against the building of a Bridge over
Exeter River.*

Province of } At a Legal Town meeting held by the freeholders of
New Hamp^{sh} } Kingston in s^d Province March the third 1746-7

1st Major Eben^t Stevens was chosen modderator for that meeting

Voted unanimously that we are not willing that there should be any Bridge Built over Exeter River any where below the falls at Exeter Town.

Jedidiah Philbrick was chosen to Represent Said Town at the General Court to object against the Building the above said Bridge.

this is a true Copy taken out of Kingston Book of Records

Attest Jed. Philbrick Town Clerk

*Vote of the Inhabitants of East Kingston against the
bridge, and reasons for said vote.*

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt. Gen^l & Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his majesties province of New Hamp^{sh}, & to the Hon^{ble} his majesties Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled.

The vote of East Kingston Concerning the Building a Bridge over Exeter River with some reasons therefor are most Humbled presented, as followeth viz:

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of the East Parish in Kingston held y^e 10th day of march Anno dom 1746-7 voted that we are not willing there should be a Bridge Built over Exeter River, and that William Boynton Phineas Bachelder & Jeremy Webster are Chosen a Committee to draw up some reasons for the above s^d vote.

A true Coppie,

Jeremy Webster Clerk

Which are as followeth viz: Wee humbly apprehend that If there should be a Bridge Built over s^d River it would wholly stop the course of the fish up the same, & so deprive these towns of that benefit, and also.

That it would greatly obstruct the navigation of the River & so Consequently the trade of Exeter which is by far the nearest & most Convenient Market Town for us & the towns above us (that is in our own Government) which Town of Exeter is a very growing town, & gives Encouragement to these up-Country towns, to hope in great priviledges by it, which If this Bridge should be Built, it would so obstruct the trade of the River & so of Exeter that all our hopes of these things will be entirely quasht & so we must be obliged to Carry all our Provisions & all our lumber into the neighboring Government, which we Humbly apprehend will not only greatly hurt us in our Interests but also Exeter, & very nearly affect the whole Government & even Portsmouth itself in particular, and further we are humbly of the opinion, that however earnest many may now be to promote the Building of this Bridge, yet it may not be Long before they may see that the profit will not countervail the Cost, & then this may prove (should it be Granted) a strong foundation laid to bring it into a perpetual Provincial charge and so we pray that their Petition may not be Granted.

WILLIAM BOYNTON	} In behalf of East Kingston
PHINEAS BACHELDER	
JEREMY WEBSTER	

Kingston East Parish.

March y^e 31st day 1747

Prov of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 14 May 1747
 Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty at their own
 Cost to build a Draw Bridge over s^d River for y^e Pub-
 lick use, the Bridge to be built in y^e most convenient manner y^e may be
 for passing of Vessels Rafts or other things & at that Place that shall
 be tho't most convenient by a Committee to be sent for that Purpose &
 Maintain'd at y^e Petitioners Cost said Com^{ee} to go & view the Circum-
 stances & make Report to y^e Gen^l Assembly as soon as may be, That
 Rich^d Jenness Esqr Capt. Jonathan Chesley & Mr. Joseph Wadleigh
 of Kensington be the Committee to join such as may (be) appointed
 by y^e Hon^{le} Council to go at y^e Petitioners Cost for this Purpose & that
 the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in Bill accordingly.

D. Pierce Clr

In Council May 15th 1747

read & Concurred & Sam^l Smith & John Downing Esq. added to the
 Committee above.

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Province of } Whereas some years past there was Lyberty granted
 New Hamp^r } By the General Court of Said Province for the Building
 a Bridge over the Salt river from Stratham to Newmarkit
 in said Province, and when ever the Same shall be Effectd, We the
 Subscribers Expecting to receive a Benefit by the Same and owning the
 Lands from the said river where s^d Bridge is ordered to be Built to the
 Country road in New Market Do hereby promis & Ingage for our
 Selves & our heirs to Give unto Stephen Bordman upon his request a
 good Deed of a Way two rods Wide through Each of our Lands for the
 Benefit of the publick, to pass & repass in with Lyberty of hanging
 Gate or gates, the Said Way is to Begin at the Lower end or South
 west end of M^r Philip Fowlers garden at the country road in New Mar-
 kit and so running near upon a streight line to the foot of said Bridge
 and for the true performance of What is above Written We the Sub-
 sscribers do hereby bind ourselves and our heirs in the penal Some of
 five hundred pounds to Stand and abide by the Same as witness our
 hands this 7th Day of January 1760

Philip Fowler
 Robert Smart

Province of } Stratham January y^e 7th 1760
 New Hampshire } Then the within named Philip Fowler & Robert
 Smart Personally appeared and owned the within
 written Instrument to be there free act & Deed
 Coram And^r Wiggin Justis peace

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and
 Commander in Chief in & over His Majesty's Province of
 New Hampshire The Hon^{le} His Majesty's Council & House
 of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly
 Convened Jan y^e 4th 1760

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of
 Stratham & other Places in Said Province *Shews*

That in the twentieth year of His Majesty's Reign an Act was pass'd Granting liberty for Building a Bridge over New Market River a Little above the Place where the Ferry is kept from the Land of Andrew Wiggin to the Land of Robert Smart according to the Directions in said Act which Bridge it was Proposed shou'd be Built by Subscription and about two thousand Pounds O. T. accordingly subscribed but as the Subscription was not to be paid before the Bridge was Built there is no fund Provided for Defraying the first necessary Expence which must be Considerable and such a Building cannot be compleated merely on Credit. That the sum aforesaid is far short of a sufficiency to Effect the Design and very few Persons now appear willing to join the Subscribers so that there is no Prospect of Success in this affair by Subscription Especially Considering all future Subscribers will expect the Same Terms of Suspending the Payment.

That as there are Several Examples of Raising money for such Purposes by Public Lotterys many have tho't it a very feasible method & giving a fair Prospect of Success in this Case and many Persons wou'd contribut in this Way who wou'd Refuse to do it in any other and as Building said Bridge appears to be a Projection of very Considerable advantage to the Public and is therefore on that account worthy of Encouragement and much to be wished to be well Executed—

Your Petitioners therefore Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to Set up a Public Lottery for the End aforesaid and for maintaining said Bridge all to be under Such Regulations & managed by Such Persons as in your Great Wisdom you shall judge Proper and that the Petitioners may have Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly and they will as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c.

Samuel Lane
Nathan Taylor
Richd Rust
Richd Young
John Avery
Moses Boynton
Nathl Bracket
John Davis
John Neal
Thos Odel
Wm Burley
Joseph Young
Nathl Leavit
Thos Harvey
Jona Hill
John Avery
Josiah Allen
Henry Wiggin
John Barker

Saml Doe Junr
Eph. Barker
Joseph Merrill Junr
George Veasey
William Pottle
Nathl Wiggin
Henry Wiggin
Darl Jackson
Joseph Jewet
Jona Thompson
William Pottle Junr
Saml Pevey
Abra Kenniston
Robt Rawlins
Benja Smith
Benja Mathes
Ebenr Smith
Joseph Sias
Joseph Smith

Valentine Matthes
 Walter Briant
 Moses Davis
 Saml Adams
 John Shepherd
 Jerem Foulson
 Charles Bunlet
 John Foulson
 Winthrop Hilton
 Chase Wiggin
 Saml Neal
 Robt Pike
 Caleb Clarke
 Saml Tilton
 Joseph Tilton
 Jona Robinson
 Joseph Burley Junr
 Saml Burley
 James Cram
 Wm Barley Junr
 David Haines
 Nathl Piper
 John Smart
 John Tash
 Arthur Bennet
 Nathl Kenniston
 Elisha Briant
 Joseph Sandborn
 Nathl Burley
 Joseph Burley
 Richd Perkins
 Theodore Tilton
 Winthrop Hilton Junr
 Ichd Marston
 Danl Hilton
 Joseph Normon
 John Barbor
 Jerem Larey
 Winthrop Pickerin
 Jona Piper
 Charles Smart
 John Bergin
 Zebulon Doe
 Jno Wedgwood
 Antho Pickerin
 Robt Smart Junr
 Wm Perkins
 Geo. Sprutt
 Byron Sweeny
 Abra Yourin
 Jno Kenniston
 Jno Mead
 Geo Dutch
 Francis Folliot
 Elipha Wiggin
 Thos Tash
 Elias Critchet

Benja Bennick
 Jno Crocket
 Saml Burley
 Andrew Folsom
 Saml Harvey
 Jno Bartlet
 Wm Welch
 Ja Bracket
 Ja Burley
 Robt Rawlins
 Hub. Matoon
 Jacob Tilton
 Ebenr Neal
 Joseph Haley
 Caleb Smart
 John Perkins
 Saml Chapman
 Reuben Hill
 Saml Wiggin
 Andrew Wiggin Junr
 Andrew French Junr
 John Wiggin
 Tho Wiggin
 Saml Piper
 Eleazr Allen
 Saml Neal
 Josiah Piper
 Josiah Hilton
 Nathl Pierce
 Saml Wiggin
 James Piper
 John Piper
 Josiah Parsons
 John Burleigh
 John Elliot
 Benja Smart
 D. Peirce
 John Penhallow
 Wm Johnson
 Matthias Weeks
 Zeb Duda
 Stephen Bordman
 Mark H Wentworth
 John Moffatt
 Rob Archibald
 Winthrop Smith
 Thos George
 John Wedgwood
 Danl Gilman
 Hunkg Wentworth
 Joseph Wiggin
 John Hains Junr
 Wm Pinell
 Isaac Foss
 Edwd Hilton
 Lawrence Dowling
 ——— Gilman

Joseph Pickerin
 Abraham Dearborn
 Abiather Sandborn
 Joseph Thomas
 Joseph Joy
 Nicho Doe
 Saml Pickerin
 Timo Jones

James Goodwin
 Jacob Burleigh
 Cutt Shannon
 David Lyford
 James Neal
 Thos Johnson
 Saml Hains
 Thomas Huckins

In Council March the 13th 1759.
 read & ordered that the foregoing Petition be sent Down to the Hon^{ble}
 Assembly

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

In Council November 1759

The Within Petition read again & ordered to be sent down to the
 Hon^{ble} Assembly

The^o Atkinson Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan 4, 1760. This Peti-
 New Hamp^{sh} } tion being read

Voted That the petitioners have Liberty to bring In a Bill accordingly,
 Provided they give security that the Bridge prayed for shall be built &
 Maintained as by an act of this Govern^{mt} passed in the Twentieth Year
 of our Sovereign's Reign & also that it shall be free from any Expence
 to Passers.

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Jan^y. 5th 1760
 read & concurred

Theo. Atkinson

*Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Province relating to
 New Market Bridge.*

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Com-
 mander in Chief In and over his Majesty's Province of New
 Hampshire, To the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Councill & House
 of Representatives for said Province Convened in Gen^l As-
 sembly.

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants
 within this Province,

Humbly *Sheweth* That whereas there was some years sence
 a Grant made by the General Assembly of this Province to a
 Number of Petitioners, for Leave to Build a Bridge over Ex-
 eter River from New Market to Stratham near the Lower
 Ferry place and whereas a Number of Petitioners for Leave to
 set up a Lottery for the building of said Bridge have obtained
 Leave to bring in a Bill Accordingly, and it appearing to us
 that the building said Bridge at that Place will be a Much
 Greater Expence to the builders and much Less Benefit to the
 Publick than if the said Bridge should be built across said
 River at a place called the New Fields We Pray your Excel-
 lency & Honours to Reconsider the Votes Already Passed con-

cerning said Bridge and Grant that the said Bridge may be built at the s^t New Fields, For the Following Reasons viz:

For that since the first Grant for building said Bridge at the lower Ferry place, The Country is Largely Settled back so as to make the Trading & Travelling by the said New Fields much more Convenient and Profitable to the People in General than at the other place.

2^{ly} For that the Damage (if any) to the People that Trade in Lumber at Exeter & other places above the New Fields will be much Less if the bridge be built at New Fields than if it be built below as the Rafts & Lighters which Come down from thence, Commonly stop at the New Field to make up their Load & Rafts bigger.

3^{ly} For that the River at the New Fields is at bottom Evener and Firmer for making a bridge to stand fast than it is below and Not so wide by Eight rods, so that the Charge of building Said Bridge at New Fields would be Vastly Less than to build it below.

4^{ly} For that there is already a high way laid open from the Country road in New Market to the upper End of the Landing at New Fields, and (if the bridge be built at New Fields) there will be a highway given by the owners of the Land in Stratham on the South side of said River From the said river to the Country road in Stratham which will be much more Serviceable & Convenient for People that Travel into the Country than the other way would be as also there will be a highway given from the Lower End of the Landing at New Fields to the Country Road in New Market near the Dwelling house of Hubartus Mattoon to Accommodate the People that live in the lower part of New Market and in Durham, which will make that way as Commodious for that people as if the bridge was to be built below.

5^{ly} For that there is a Great Trade and business Carry'd on at the Said New Fields (Particularly Shipbuilding) which (as People are Frequently Settling there) is likely to Increase very Largely in Case the Said Bridge be built there.

For all which Reasons and many more that may be offered Your Petitioners Most Humbly Hope that your Excellency & Hon^{ts} will Take under your wise Consideration the Premises aforesaid and Take Such order Concerning the Same as your Excellency & your Hon^{ts} In your Great Wisdom Shall think Most Convenient and proper And Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

New Market Jan. 30th 1760

Jonathan Chase
Zebulon King
Daniel Palmer
Benjamin Morrill

John Palmer
Moses Chase
John Levitt Junr.
Samuel Levitt

John Coker
 Moses Clark
 Benjamin Levitt
 Simon Wiggin
 Benjamin Barker
 Richard Gliden
 Abner Thirston
 William Badger
 Joseph Norman
 Greenleaf Clarke
 Enoch Clarke
 John Bean
 Robert Barber
 Edward Colcord
 James Marston
 James Marston Junr.
 Caleb Marson
 Jonathan Colcord
 Gideon Colcord
 Jonathan Colcord junr.
 Joseph Chapman
 Saml Baker
 Winthrop Hilton Jun.
 Ichabod Hilton
 Jonathan Hill
 Abnar Thurston
 Jonathan Piper
 Isile Marston
 Robert Cross
 Georg Hart
 Jacob Tilton
 Samuel Tilton
 Edward Presson
 Nathan Preson
 William Shute
 Wm Odiorne Junr.
 Theodore Hilton

Roger Racklyeft
 John Davis Junr.
 Samuel Robinson
 Benjamin Holt
 Benja Jewett
 John Thirston
 Edward Hall
 Joseph Hall
 Israel Gilman
 Winthrop Hilton
 Michael Shute
 Joshua Mitchell
 Elias Tarlton
 Thomas Cotton
 William Moore
 Stephen Emerson
 John Neal
 Nathan Sanborn
 Banjman Avery
 Abner Clough
 Thomas Rowe
 Israel Blake
 Saml Gilman
 John Manning
 John Leavitt
 Stephen Thirston
 John Stockbridge
 John Stockbridge Jr
 John Rundlet
 Richard Calley
 William Calley
 Volintine Clark
 Jonathan Robinson
 Chas Robinson
 Saml Lane
 John Clark

Prov. New Hamp. In Council Feb^r the 6th 1760
 read & ordered to be sent down to the assembly
 Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governor and
 Commander in Chief of His Majestys Province of New
 Hampshire, To the Honorable His Majestys Council and
 House of Representatives for Said Province Conven'd in
 General Assembly.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Freeholders and others
 Inhabitants within this Province Humbly sheweth, That there
 was formerly a Grant made by the General Assembly of this
 Province to Build a Bridge over Exeter River from New Market
 to Stratham near the Lower Ferry place; But the same has

never been improved; nor is it likely that it ever will be improved. That its well known that Great advantage to the Publick would arise from having a Bridge over said River between said Towns a little higher up the River at the New Fields landing Place so called; a situation far superior to that of the Place where Liberty was formerly Granted; in respect to the Convenience of Travelers throughout the Province, a narrower Passage, Shoaler waters, and an even and firmer Bottom, so that the cost of Building would be a great deal Less than at the other place; That these reasons are so flagrant, that most if not all those who were formerly for haveing the Bridge Below, have relinquished their opinion being Convinced that a Bridge at the place now requested would be much more for the Publick utility: besides a Bridge in this place would be the least Impediment to the water Carriage, of any other place in the River and might easily be contrived so as to give little or no hindrance to the Transportation of Rafts & Vessels.

Your Petitioners likewise Humbly presume that a Bridge in this place may be built on any Plan your Excellency and Honours may see most proper to order, by private subscriptions allowing as short a time as you may think sufficient to Effect the Same. Therefore for all these Reasons and many more which may be offered, evincing the great public and private usefulness of such a work, Your Petitioners Humbly pray that Liberty may be Granted for Building a Bridge over said River at the Place now requested. Your Petitioners earnestly Hope that your Excellency and Honours will take our prayer into your wise Consideration and give such orders Concerning the same as your Excellency and Honours shall think most proper and Convenient. And your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

New Market Jan 1766

James Johnston
Josiah Hilton
John Dow
Daniel Dow
Benja Dow Jr.
Noah Dow
Stephen Clark
Daniel Sanborn
Job Parsons
James Cram
Ed. Hall Bergin
Robt Thompson
Joshua Woolman
Chas Wiggin
Caleb Marston
Moses Dalton
Benja Hill

Robert Pike
Wm Johnston
John Johnston
Thos Johnston
Joshua Pickerin
John Huggens
Nathan Johnston
Ebenezer Neal
Francis Berry
David Knowles
John Brown
James Nudd
James Berry
Willm Hains
Abner Hains Junr
Noah Haines
Joshua Wingate 3d

David Wiggen	Ebenezer Barker
Jos Johnston Junr	Noah Barker
Ebenr Haines	Joseph Wiggen
Paul Uran	Benja Wiggen
Timotay Haines	Cotton Dockum
John Johnston Junr	Chase Wiggen
John Haines Jun.	Thos French
Nathan Burley	Joseph Wiggen Junr.
Joseph Burleigh	Joshua Weeks
Timothy Jones	Thomas Tash
Benja Johnson	Caleb Clarke
John Johnston	Samuel Baker
Josiah Page	James Hill
William Pettie	Elisha Bryant
Jonathan Leavitt	John Smith
Joseph Mason Junr	Thomas Young
Richard Rust	Walter Dryent
John Avery Jr.	Jeremy Bryant
Andr Wiggen ye 3d	Nicholas Duda
Stillman Tarlton	Benjamin Shepard
Simon Wiggen	Samuel Shepard
John Hill	Samuel Parsons
Nathan Hoag	Col'n Buzzell
Samuel Pottle	Joseph Hall
John Clarke	Edward Hall
Saml Weeks	Nicho Shute
Thomas Nudd	John Neal
Ichabod Weeks	Cotton Haines
Andrew Carter	Nathan Barker
John Avery	Jona Taylor
Ebenr Clarke	Matthias French
Chace Taylor	Moses Clark
John Hill	Josiah Allen
Jacob Jewett	Jona Weekes
John Piper	David Berry
Jona Wedgwood	Simon Loveran
John Rand et	Josiah Haines
Josiah Clarke	R. Tufton Philbrick
Enoch Clarke	John Haines
Saml Nutter	Nathl Clark
Benja Nudd	Josiah Hanaford
Simon Philbrick	Benja Barker
Saml Marston	John Thurston
Jona Huggens	Saml Lane
Joseph Pickerin	Thos Veasey
Andrew French Jr.	John Tuck
Samuel Norton	Geo Veasey
Joseph Chandler	Jos. Young
David Haines	Jno Leavet
Jona Elliott	Zebulon King
David Burley	Saml Leavit
James Marston	Jona Chace
Thomas Harvey	Steph Thurston
John Kimball	Jona Wiggen
George Been	Richd Calley
Thos Wiggen 3d	Wm Pettie Junr
Joseph Young	Saml Marble

Chace Robinson
Benja Leavet
Jona Philbrick
Saml Mighels Jun.
Wm Crockett
Joseph Sanborn
Willm Whipple
Darl Rogers
Darl Rindge
John Rindge
Abra Tilton
Wm Badger
Ebenr Stanwood
Henry Wiggen
Eph. Barker
Ed. Chase
Gid. Colcord
Jona Colcord
Wm Shute
Elias Tarlton
Richd Haley
John Shute
Thos Bartlett
N. Hopkinson
Geo. Hart
Is. Marston
Nathl Doe
Nicho Blasdele
Ed Eastham
Is: Blasdele
James Coffin
Joseph Merrill

Joshua Wiggin
Walter Neal
Israel Gilman Junr.
Benjamin Folsom
Stephen Gilman
Israel Gilman Seur
Robert Barber Senr
Robert Barber Junr.
David Gilman
Bradstreet Gilman
John Gilman
Moses Coffin
Enoch Coffin
William Coffin
Joseph Smith
Elisha Smith
Ezekiel Gilman
John Mighell
Saml Mighell senr
John Marstes
Hubnrtus Mattoon
George Dutch
Winthrop Hilton Senr
Winthrop Hilton Junr
Daniel Hilton
Jonathan Folsom
John Lyford
Richard Clarke
Richard Clark jun.
John Clarke
Thomas Hanniford

Prov of New } In Council Jan^y 9th 1766
Hampshire } Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} House
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 9th 1766 The
New Hamps } within Petition being Read and Considered

Voted That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after the tenth Day of February next, and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of the Petition and Order of Court to be Printed three weeks Successively in the New Hamps^{re} Gazett, That any Person may shew Cause why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Wear Cl^r

In Council Jan^y 10th 1766
read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^y

Province of } June 26th 1766. Upon a motion made in behalf of the
New Hamps^{re} } Petitioners that this Petition may be Revised,

Voted That the Petition be Revised and that the Petitioners be heard thereon the third Day of the Siting of the General Assembly after the Last Day of August next and that the Petitioners at their own Cost Cause the Substance of the Petition and this order of Court to be Printed three weeks successively in the New Hampshire Gazette that any person may Shew Cause why the Prayer thereof Should not be Granted.

M. Weare Cler.

To the Hon^{ble} Henry Sherburne att Portsmouth Esqr.

New Market Jan^y 7, 1766

Mr. Speaker.

Having seen a Petition which is to be prefer^d to the General Assembly for a Removal of the Bridge that was to be maid a Cross Exeter River Near the Lower ferry (so called) between New Market and Stratham and am doubtfull whether Ever a bridge will be built at the place where the act has *Proposed* therefore hope the Generall Court will adhear to the Petitionors and a nother Reson for the bridge to be above is that Merss Shut and Mattoon has Given from under thire hands to open a Road from the upper ferry to the main Road which is a Great advantage to the North End of New Market

furthermore as the back Settlements Inceas the bridge is much more wanting.

With Submiston I am your Hum^{ble} Serv^t

Joseph Smith

P. S. What cased me to write you is to Let you know the Reson as above why I Incline the upper place.

J. S.

Sundry Inhabitants of New Market &c. Petition for a Lottery.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in general Assembly convened Feb. 23^d 1768.

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Newmarket Stratham & other Places in said Province Shews

That in the twentieth year of His late Majesty's Reign George the Second, an Act of this Province was pass'd, granting Liberty for Building a Bridge over New Market River a litle above the Place where the Ferry is kept. from the Land of Andrew Wiggin to land of Robert Smart, according to the Direction in said act, which Bridge it was Propos'd should be built by Subscription, and about two thousand Pounds old Ten^r accordingly was subscribed, but the Subscription money was not to be paid before the Bridge was built, there is no fund provided for defreying the first necessary Expence, which must be considerable and such a Building cannot be compleated merely on Credit. That the Sum aforesaid is insufficient to effect the Design and very few Persons now appear willing to join the Subscribers so that there is no Prospect of Success in this Affair by Subscription especially considering all future Subscribers will expect the same Terms of suspending the Payment.

That as there are several Examples of raising money for such Purposes by Public Lotteries many have tho't it a very feasible method and giving a fair Prospect of Success in this

Case, and many Persons wou'd contribute in this way, who wou'd refuse to do it in any other: as building said Bridge will be a public Benefit, and is therefore on that account worthy of Encouragement and much to be wished to be well executed.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that they may have Liberty to Set up a Public Lottery to raise money to erect and compleat said Bridge and for the future maintaining of the same, under such Regulations and managed by such Persons as in your great Wisdom you shall Judge proper, And they will as in Duty bound ever pray &c

Thos Wigger
Thos Wiggin Junr.
Willm Weeks
Walter Wiggin
Saml Wiggin
Isaac Foss
Jona Wiggin
Ephraim Crocket
Jno Crocket
Richd Rust
Thos Foss
Ezra Barker
Ebenr Barker
Nathl Piper
Stephn Piper
Jacob Wiggin
Moses Clark
Walter Wiggin
Tufton Wiggin
James Bracket
Josh Bracket
Nathl Bracket
Ebenr Bracket
Jona Dockum
George Bracket
Nathn Goss
Josha Weeks
John Kenniston
Thos French
Jerh Avery
Jacob Jewett
Willm French
Will French Junr
Danl French
John Avery
Josa Avery
Saml Wiggin Junr.
Nathl Wiggin
Andr French, Jun.
Andrew Wiggin jun.
Josa Hill
Josh Hill
Jona Piper

Elisa Piper
David Jewell
Danl Jewell
Thos Wiggin 3d
Jona Purkins
Nathn Hoag
Nathn Hoag
Nathan Barker
Jona Hill
John Hill
Josiah Allen
Nathl Goss
Saml Weeks
Stephen Bordman
Reuben G. Dearborn
Danl Clark
Enoch Clark
Will Jenkins
Ebenr Clark
Andr Carter
Walter Weeks
Ichabd Weeks
David Simpson
John Folsom
Mark Wiggin
Willm Burleigh
Robt Smart
Jonh Smart
Jno Bartlett
Simonds Fowler
Jacob Fowler
Jno. Perkins
Thos Perkins
David Smart
Hubertus Neal
John Bryant
Walter Bryant
Edwd Smith
Thos Robinson
Jams Burleigh
Moses Burleigh
Jno Purkins
Walter Bryant junr.

Josh Young
 Josh. Smart
 Ichabd Johnson
 Thos Stevenson
 Benja Chapman
 Micah Emerson
 Josa Frost
 Winthp Smith
 Benja Mead
 John Mead
 John Smart
 Timy Murray
 John B. M. Hanson
 Josh Thomas
 Ebenr Tasker
 John Edgerly Junr
 Danl Rogers
 Bradstreet Doe
 Josa Crummet
 John Smith
 Jams Smith Junr
 Stephn Jenkins
 Stephn Wille Jur.

Saml Doe
 Zebuln Doe Jur.
 John Laya
 Ephr Folsom
 Jona Edgerly
 John Folsom Jun.
 Nicholas Hartford
 John Hartford
 Ebenr Durgin
 Jacob Foss
 Winthrop Wiggin
 Philip Pain
 Josh Glanvill
 Benja Taylor
 James Cram
 Danl Sawyer
 Josh Ham
 Enoch Remmick
 John Burleigh Junr.
 Ichd Eracket
 Philip Fowler
 Jeremy Bryant
 John Pickering

Province of } In the House of Representatives Feb^y 23 1768 The fore-
 New Hamp^s } going Petition being Considered

Voted That the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill for a Lot-
 tery to Raise money for building the Bridge mentioned in the Petition,
 to be subject to the Restrictions and Regulations Mentioned in the Act
 for Granting Liberty for building said Bridge by Subscription Pass'd in
 the year 1747

In Council Feb^y 24 1768
 Read & Concurr'd

M. Weare Cl^r

Geo King Dep Sec^y

*Act to raise money by Lottery for a Bridge over Exeter
 River.*

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii magnæ Brittanniæ Franciæ et
 Hiberniæ octavo.

An Act for granting Liberty To Set up & Carry on a Public Lottery
 to raise Money for the Building & Maintaining a Bridge over Exeter
 River so called from Stratham to New Market in This Province.

Whereas in & by an Act passed in The twentieth year of his late
 Majesty's Reign Liberty was granted for the building a Bridge over
 said River at a Place & in The Manner therein expressed which not
 having been Carried into Execution many of the Inhabitants of this
 province have lately petitioned the General Assembly setting forth the
 great Benefit it would be to the province in general if that Design was
 executed, which has hitherto been delayed for want of Money & pray-
 ing Leave to raise Money by a public Lottery for that purpose, which
 having been duly Considered & the Proposal appearing to be for pub-
 lick Advantage

Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council & Assembly that

the persons hereinafter named be & hereby are authorized & permitted to set up & Carry on a publick Lottery to raise Money for the End aforesaid in so many Classes & Drafts as they shall judge proper not exceeding in the whole the Sum of one Thousand Pounds Lawful m^y of said province provided the said Lottery be drawn & finished within the Term of Two Years from the passing of this Act. And Andrew Wiggin & Walter Bryant Esq^r Deac^t Stephen Boardman, Cornet Thomas Wiggin, Lieut Joseph Young & Lieut. John Burley, or the major part of them are hereby appointed to be managers of said Lottery who shall be under oath to be administered by any Justice of the peace to the faithful Discharge of that Trust & shall duly pay all benefit Tickets according to the Tenor & True Meaning of their Scheme & shall refund all sum and sums of Money that shall be paid for Tickets in Case the said Lottery shall not be drawn and Completed within the Term aforesaid. And the said Managers or the Major part of them are hereby appointed & authorized to apply the Money which they shall so raise by Causing the said bridge to be built agreeable to the Act aforesaid with this Difference that The Passage of twenty eight feet shall be where the deepest Water is instead of the Passage of forty five feet as mentioned in said Act & the forty five feet to be in the next birth on the side of New Market, and the Passage for Vessels may be made in any manner that shall be more Convenient than that propos'd in said Act & they shall Cause the said Bridge to be finished within one year after the said Lottery shall be finished & they shall be allowed their reasonable Demand for their Time & Trouble as the General Assembly shall Judge proper to whom they shall render their Account of their proceedings & all Charges & Demands Concerning the Premises & if any money shall remain after the Bridge shall be finished it shall be applied for the Support & Repairs thereof as the General Assembly shall Order.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid that there be a Convenient high Way each side of said Rivers from the Country Road to said Bridge when built in the Town of Stratham, to begin where the South East end of said Bridge shall be & from thence to run South easterly Thro' the Land of Andrew Wiggin Esqr. to the Country Road as the Road now goes, & in New Market To begin where the North West End of said Bridge shall be & from thence to run North-westerly a straight Line to the Country Road near the Southerly side of Philip Fowlers Garden, the said Road in both Towns to be three Rods wide & to be under the same regulations as tho' it was laid by the quarter Sessions.

The owners of the Land giving the Land for that purpose which they have engaged To do provided they may have Liberty to hang & Maintain Two Gates on each side which Liberty is hereby granted.

Province of } In the House of Representatives February 26th 1763.
New Hamp^{sh} } This bill having been read three times it passed to be Enacted

P. Gilman Speaker

In Council March 3^d 1768

This Bill was read three times & pass'd to be enacted

Geo King Depy. Sec^y

Assented to

J^WENTWORTH

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened the 31 day of March 1772

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of New Market Stratham & other places in said Province *Shews*,

That they find by experience that the Plan for building a bridge of New Market Lower Ferry place is not so well suited for that Design as the upper ferry place called the New fields, that the Tydes by reason of the Several points of Land runs so much across the River that the Rafts will almost unavoidably be thrown on to the Piers which will necessarily occasion damage either to the Piers or the rafts add to this the Length of the distance to be built will occasion near double the cost that wou'd be necessary to compleat the work above. That your Petitioners humbly conceive that every advantage for Effecting Such a design, is so evidently on that side of the Question which of the two places is the best in Preference of the upper place, that your Petitioners are at a Loss what reasons determined the case as it is. That as the place where it is begun is fixed by an act, your Petitioners Suppose it cannot be changed without another act for that purpose otherwise the People concerned would have altered the design have erected it at the New Fields & it is probable have finished it there by this time. That it is supposed with the advantage of the materials already provided three hundred and fifty pounds will be sufficient to finish it that they have Set on foot a Subscription to Raise that sum which on the View of a Change of the Place will be soon full that if Liberty shall be granted to Erect the bridge at the Newfields there will appear a number of Persons to give sufficient Security that the whole work shall be compleated within One Year after such Liberty shall be granted.

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly Pray that they may have Liberty to Erect the bridge Proposed at the place called the New Fields may have the Property of the materials already provided as they are we suppose paid for or given gratis to the Public for the use of the undertakers or those who were to carry on the work and that they may have leave to bring in a bill accordingly and they will as in duty bound ever pray &c

James Hill
Anron Moses
Henry Wiggen
Nathn Rogers
Ebenezar Stanwood
Jonathan Colcord

John Neal
Michael Shute
Robert Pike Junr
Josiah Adams
Samuel Gilman Junr
Edmund Chase

Isaac Marston	William Merrel
Joseph Wiggen	Josiah Norris
Joseph Doe	Joseph Gale
Nathl Gilman	Samuel Langmaid
Edward Colcord	Joseph Smith
Walter Neal	Simon Knowles
Jonathan Colcord the Third	James Page
Gideon Colcord	David Kindrick
Joseph Merrill	Josiah Sanborn
Caleb Clark	John Towle
Gideon Colcord	Reuben Osgood
Samuel Baker	Levi Dearborn
Elias Talton	John Langmaid
John Shute	Jonathan Clark
John Sweesey	Joseph Mills
Nathl Lord	William Rowell
Stileman Talton	Andrew Hanson
John Colcord	Benjamin Morse
John Marstes	Samuel Osgood
Samuel Neal	Moses Dalton
Joseph Sanborn	Joseph Smith
Samuel Weaks	Josa Wingate
Nathanl Cross	Benjamin Leavitt
Peter Folsom	Harvey Moore
Nicholas Hersey	Thomas Wiggen
James Gilman	Simon Wiggen
Jacob Brown	Jonathan Wiggen
Robert Barber Junr	Moses Clark
John Stanwood	Ephraim Barker
William Coffin	Benjamin Barker
Daniel Barber	Wm Whipple
William Tyrrel	Jos Whipple
Stephen Clark	Supply Clark
Enoch Coffin	Josha Wentworth
Robertt Cross	James Stilson
William Hains	Richard Hart
Benja Butler	John Hurd
Joseph Morrell	Jacob Treadwell
Seth Fogg	Samll Griffith
Benjamin Clifford	Benja Slade
Simon Dearborn	David Griffith
Ezekiel Brown	George Janvrin
Ebenezar Fisk	Samuel Cutts
Jonathan Eliot	George Wentworth
Benjamin Page	Samuel Shurburne
James Sanborn	Daniel Shurburne
Jonathan Philbrook	H. Wintworth
Jonathan Winslow	Robert Trail
Barzellai French	John Moffatt
John Gilman	Gregore Pussell
Joseph Chandler	John Parker
Jonathan Melloon	John Langdon
David Lawrence	Jacob Sheaf Junr
Jeremiah Sanborn	George Boyd
Thomas Drake	Thomas Martin
Job Parsons	Daniel Towle

May 22 1772 In the House of Representatives upon Reading this Petition

Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon on the of June next and that the Petitioners

Relating to a highway in New Market.

Pursuant to a Vote of the General Assembly appointing us the Subscribers to make Inquiry Relating a Certain High way in the Parish of New Market as Set forth in a a Petition to the General Assembly &c. We have on the 20 of March 1766 Viewed Said High way & fully heard the Parties Concerned there on and do agree to Report as followeth Viz: that the High way above Mentioned ought to be & Remaine as follows. Beginning at a Gate about twelve Rods to the North West of Piscasuk Bridge then Running Northerly as the Way was formerly Laid out and as it now goes through the Land of Joseph Hall Esq. and through the Land of James Marston & through the Land of Edward Colcorde as it now Goes to Joseph Lovering's Land then Beginning by Lovering's Land on the west Side of Said way and Running through the Same as followeth North ten degrees West thirty two rods then north fourteen degrees west twenty two rods to Jacob Ames Land then North forty degrees West thirty Rods to a Stone Bridge, over a small Brook the way to be two Rods wide and on the North Easterly side of said Line through Lovering's land to the stone bridge then north eight degrees east fifty eight rods to Stephen Lyfords land the way to be on the westerly side of said line then North nineteen Degrees East thirty four Rods as the way is now fenced out then North forty two Degrees East twenty four Rods then North forty nine Degrees East thirty five Rods to Nath Ames his Land then North forty five Degrees East Sixteen Rods then North Sixty Seven Degrees East thirty Rods then North twenty two Degrees East twenty two Rods as the way is now fenced out to Jacob Ames Land then through Said Ames his Land North twenty two Degrees East ten Rods then North thirty one Degrees East Sixteen Rods then North fourteen Degrees west twenty Rods on a Strate Line to Josiah Hiltons South Corner Keeping the way as it now goes till it Comes to a High way formerly Laid out the way to be on the Westerly side of said Line throw Said Ames' Last mentioned Land.

Never the Less since the Said Jacob Ames has by an agreement with the Select men Partly fenced the Road from Said Last mentioned Bridge on the Westerly Side of his orchard up a steep hill if the Said Jacob Ames will within thirty days from the tenth day of July next Cause the Said way on the Westerly Side of his orchard to be made Passable in the Judgment of the Selectmen of Said New Market then we think it ought to go on the west side and if not to go through his Land as above said

And also that there be paid unto the Person whose names here after mentioned for their Lands by the Select men of the above Said New Market.

To James Marston 3: 4: 9

to Edward Colcord 3: 5: 6

to Nathaniel Ames 2: 11: 0

to Stephen Lyford 3: 9: 9

to Joseph Lovering 4: 0: 0

Lawful money

All which is Humbly Submitted by

Jn^s Wentworth
And Wiggin
Rich^d Jenness 3^d } Committee

Province of } In the House of Representatives July 5th 1766 Voted
 New Hamp^{sh} } and Resolved That the foregoing Report be accepted
 allowed and Confirmed

M. Wear Cl^k

In Council Eo^{dem} Die
 read & Concurred.

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

*Petition of Selectmen of New Market and others for a
 highway.*

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hamp^{sh} } Capt^l General, Governour, and Commander
 in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province
 of New Hampshire: The Hon^{ble} His Majes-
 tys Council and House of Representatives in
 General Assembly Convened 25 June 1765.

The humble Petition of the Selectmen of New Market &
 others *sheweth*,

That the Selectmen of New Market aforesaid on the 18 Day
 of August 1763 laid out a High Way Two Rods wide in New
 Market aforesaid thro' the Lands of Several Persons; and
 made a Return thereof (which was recorded on the Towns
 Records) to General Satisfaction. But it has sence been dis-
 covered that thro' the Inadvertency of the Surveyor there was
 a Mistake made in several of the courses of said Way between
 the Gate near Piscassick Bridge and Josiah Hiltons South
 West Corner so that instead of the Returns Directing it in such
 convenient Places as was then intended and agreed on it directs it
 to such Places as are very Inconvenient and almost Inaccessi-
 ble to the damage of some and great Dissatisfaction of others.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Excellency and Hon^{rs}
 to interfere in the Premises and appoint and send a Committee
 to investigate the Inconveniency Thereof and Provide a Rem-
 edy Therefor by determining the Particular Place or Places
 where said Way shall go.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

JOHN BURLEIGH
 ISRAEL GILMAN JR. } Selectmen
 WALTER BRYANT }

Hubartus Mattoon
 Daniel Hilton
 Joseph Merrill
 Sam^l Hilton
 Theod^{re} Hilton
 Thomas Young
 Benjamin Folsom
 Peter Folsom

James Marston
 Hubartus Neal
 Isaac Marston
 Winthrop Hilton
 Winthrop Hilton Jun^r
 Sam^l Pease
 Robart Barber Jr.
 Stephen Gilman

David Gilman
Zebulon Marsh
Sam^l Baker
John Pike

Joseph Doe
William Perkins
W^m Badger.

Province of New Hamp^{re} July 3^d 1765.

In Council

read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} The Assembly

Province of } In the house of Representatives July 3^d 1765 This peti-
New Hamps } tion being heard

Voted That the petitioners be heard thereon nex friday if the Gen^l Assembly be then sitting if not then on the second day of their sitting nex after & that he cause the Parties whose lands the said Road Runs thro', to be Serv'd with a Copy of said petition & this order of Court thereon that they may appear & Shew Cause if any they have why the prayer thereof Should not be Granted.

A. Clarkson Clerk

In Council Eodem Die

read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun^r Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Nov^r 28, 1765 The Par-
New Hamp^{re} } ties being heard on the within Petition

Voted That Col^l John Wentworth Andrew Wiggin & Richard Jenness Esq^{rs} be a Committee they or any two of them to make Inquiry Respecting the Highway mentioned in this Petition and the Return of the same and where the same ought to be laid for the Publick benefit and what satisfaction Ought to be made for any Lands through which the same may Pass, and to make Report to the General Assembly as soon as may be. The charge of the Committee to be Paid by the Parish of New Market

M. Weare Cl^k

In Council Eodem Die

read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^y

NEW IPSWICH.

[Incorporated 9 September, 1762. Ed.]

Votes of a Town meeting in N. Ipswich, Oct. 8, 1764.

Att a Town meeting held at the Meeting House in Ipswich in the Province of New Hampshire on Monday y^e Eighth Day of October A. D. 1764

Voted to Set a New Meeting House on the Commonage Near Whear the Meeting House Now Stands. Chosen to Bound the Meeting House Spot Benjamin Adams Reuben Taylor and Reuben Kidder

Voted to accept the Spot as it is Markt out by Said Gentlemen.

Att a Legal meeting of the Town of New Ipswich in the Province of New Hampshire held in Said Town at the meeting House on the twenty third Day of April A. D. 1767,

Voted to Buld a meeting House next summer.

Voted to Buld the Meeting House on the place where it was formerly Stakte out by a Committee.

At a Legal Meeting of the Town of New Ipswich in the Provence of New Hampshier held at the meeting House in s^t Town on the twentyeth Day of May A. D. 1767

Voted to Confirm the Vots Past at the Last Town Meeting.

A True Copy of the Vote past in New Ipswich Respecting a place to Buld a meeting House on.

Attest pr.

Isaac Appleton Town Clerk.

Petition of the inhabitants of New Ipswich for a Committee to settle a plan for a meeting house.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Cap^t Gener^l Governor & Commander In Chief In & over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r the hon^{ble} his majesties Council & house of Representatives for said Province In General Assembly Convened.

The humble Petition of us the Subscribers freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Ipswich in said Province Shews That the Inhabitants of said Town are about to Build a meeting house for the public Worship of God there & have Lately had a meeting for that Purpose that it appears the said Inhabitants are no Ways Likely to agree on a suitable place to set the same that may in any manner accomad'e a Very Considerable Number of the said Inhabitants & best Land, that much Uneasiness has already arisen on account thereof & more Likely to Insue and Shou'd that be the Case, May be the Means of hurting or Preventing a further Settlement of the Lands now Wild in said Town.

That your Petitioners under a Sence of the Great Benefit Arising from a Peaceable Neighbourhood Now in the Infant State of said Town, Most humbly pray that your Excellency & honors wou'd Interpose & Take their peculiar Circumstances Into Consideration & that they may have a Committee to repair to Said Town & View the Same & Report a proper place which We pray may be final, or Give Such Other Relief as your Excellency and honors shall see Meet and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray.

June 25th 1767

Benj. Safford
Paltiah Whittemore
Joseph Pollard
James Chandler
Hezekiah Cory
Wido Mary Foster
John Welar
Simeon Wright

Abraham Bennet
Samuel Whittemore
Ichabod How
Benj^r Gibbs
Allen Breed
Zacriah Adams
Thomas Heald
Thomas Spaulding

Samuel Kenney
 Joel Crosby
 Tom Walker
 Reuben Hosmer
 Andrew Conn
 Simeon Fletcher
 Stephen Adams Jr.
 Abraham Estibbrook ?
 Samuel Wheeler
 Thomas Adams
 James Taler ?
 Jesse Calton

Simeon Hildreth
 Stephen Adams
 Elazer Cummings
 Jacob Gragg
 David Rumrill
 Samuel Holdin
 Andrew Spaulding
 Robert Campbell
 William Hodgkins
 Josiah Walton
 Thomas Brown
 Reuben Tailor

Province of } In the House of Representatives August 19th 1767
 New Hamp^{re} } Voted That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition
 the Second Day of the Siting of the General Assembly
 after the 20th Day of September next, and that the Petitioners at their
 own Cost serve the Selectmen of said Ipswich with a Copy of this Pe-
 tition and Order of Court, And also Cause the Substance of the Peti-
 tion And Order of Court to be printed three weeks in the New Hamp-
 shire Gazett That any Person may appear and Shew Cause why the
 Prayer thereof Should not be Granted

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council August 20th 1767

Read and Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Sep^r 22^d 1767
 New Hamp^{re} } Upon hearing the Petitioners on the foregoing Peti-
 tion and also a Com^{tee} on behalf of the Town against
 the Petition it appears that Sending a Com^{tee} will be most likely to
 Settle Peace in the town Therefore

Voted That Col^o John Goffe John Hale and James Underwood Esqrs.
 be a Comraitee to Determine the most Suitable Place for Erecting a
 Meeting House in said Town and to make Report to the General As-
 sembly as soon as may be.

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Sept^r 24th 1767

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun. Sec.

Agreeable to the Within Vote We have been at the Town of New
 Ipswich have fully heard and Considered what has been offered by all
 Concerned Examind the Town Votes and View'd the Situation of the
 Town and from all Circumstances are fully Sattisfied that the place
 where the meeting House now is in said Town is the best situation for
 it to be Continued in will best accommodate the Town and be most
 agreeable to the Greatest part of the Inhabitants and accordingly we
 beg Leave so to Report

John Goffe
 John Hale
 James Underwood

February 18th 1768

Acc't of the Pay of Petitioners & Non Petitioners.

In a Rate of three Hundred Pound the Petitioners with those that
 Voted with them aganst Bulding a meeting House on the Spot where

the Town Voted to Build it Pay Eighty foure Pound one Shilling, the other Inhabittance Pay two Hundred fifteen Pound nineteen Shillings to the same Rate Exclusive of the Poles

Isaac Appleton	} Selectmen
Nath ^l Stone	
Benja Hoar	

Province of } In the House of Representatives Febr^y 19th 1763
 New Hamp^{re} } Voted That the foregoing Report of the Committee
 be accepted and the Place for Setting the meeting House
 in said Ipswich Established agreeable thereto, and further

Voted That the accom^t of said Committee for their time and Ex-
 pence in that Business amounting to three Pounds sixteen Shillings
 Lawfull money be allowd and Paid them by the Selectmen of said Ips-
 wich, who are Directed to assess the Inhabitants for the Same.

M. Weare Cl^k

In Council eodem die

Read & Concurr'd

Geo King Dep^y Sec^y

Assented to

J^s WENTWORTH

NOTE.—On MS. p. 105, of Vol. 5, is a plan of lots in New Ipswich,
 not here inserted. · Ed.

NEWTOWN.

[Incorporated 6 December, 1749. See South Hampton. Ed.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour and
 Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of
 New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable
 his Majestys Council for said Province:

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of that part of
 the Town of Amesbury that lyeth to the Northward of the
 Boundary line between the Province of New Hampshire and
 Massachusetts Bay by the late Settlement of the S^t Line and
 to the Southward of Shapleys Line so called most humbly
 shews That your Petitioners understand that about sixty per-
 sons in Number who live in that part of Salisbury that lyeth
 between the two afores^d lines and that part of Amesbury afores^d
 have petitioned your Excellency and Honours for a Township
 of seven miles in Length as mentioned in their Petition. That
 your Petitioners are included within the bounds of said Town
 ship. That the meeting house they have Erected for them-
 selves is so situated as that it is no ways convenient for your
 Petitioners. That many of those who signed their Petition

now say they were deceived. That it will be a great Burden to your Petitioners if they are under an obligation to be holden by what their Neighbors have asked for themselves. That your Petitioners desire they may have liberty to be annexed to such Parishes as are most convenient for them till Such Time as they shall be able to make a parrish among themselves.

Wherefore your Petitioners pray your Excellency and Honours to grant your Petitioners liberty to speak for themselves before your Excellency and Honours and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Feb. 18th 1741-2

Jonathan Kimball
Jonathan Wasson
Jonathan Farron
Timothy Farron
David Gooden
Samuell Gooden
Philip Challess
Benjamin Kimball
Caleb Hobs
Roger Estman
William Sargent
Nathanel Ash
George Marsten
Robert Marter
Abraham Marroll
David Marten
Ivery Fooler ?

Orlando Bagly
David Bagly
Andrew Whitt
Timothy Whittier
Josiah Fowler
Thomas Fowler
David Elott
Thomas Carter
John Carter
William Fowler
Thomas Carter Junr.
Will^m Fowler Junr.
John Carter Jun^r
Joseph Fowler
John Carter
Jacob Carter
Samuell Carter

The Inhabitants of Almsbury Peek petition.

Province of) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
New Hamp^e) Governour & Commander in Chief in & over
his Majesties Province of New Hampshire &
to the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council of s^d
Province in Court assembled at Portsmouth
Dec^r 27th Anno Domini 1743.

The Memorial of Peter Morse, John Webster & Samuel Plummer for themselves and in behalf of Sundry others Inhabitants of the North Westerly part of the Town of Almsbury commonly called Almsbury Peek and within the Said Province

Humbly *sheweth* That your Petitioners Labour under inexpressible difficulties by reason of our being annexed to the Toun of South Hampton. That the most of us live near fourteen Miles from the Meeting House in said Town and therefore cannot without great Cost as well as hazzard in passing their rocky & dangerous paths ever attend the publick worship of God there.

That lying at such a distance from them we have no Notice

of their meetings for transacting their publick affairs So that we have no liberty of voteing; are Tax^d & chosen into office without our Consent or Knowledge which with humble submission we Cannot but think a very Great Grievance.

That your petitioners also live near Eight miles from Kingston meeting House So that it will be very difficult for us to attend the publick worship of God there & we would further humbly suggest that Kingston haveing of late Claimed Our lands there is now such a discord betwixt us that will we fear never be reconciled so as to sit easy together.

That we are unable to support the worship of God amongst ourselves (tho we are willing and desirous to Contribute to it according to our ability) and we liveing very near & Convenient to Haverhill district have some of us attended the worship of God at the Rev^d M^r Cushings meeting others at Timber lane for many years past through their lenity to us, unless sometimes in the winter Season we have at a very great Cost hired preaching amongst ourselves & we apprehending that if we were annexed to that district it might make Two good parishes & would be agreeable and a very great Satisfaction to them as well as ourselves we earnestly request your Excellency and Honours to annex us to that district so that we may have y^e priviledges as they have, & for your Excellency & Honours

Your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray
&c

William Sawerd
Samuell Hunt
Peter Morss
John Webster
Samuel Plummer
Thomas Williams
Joseph Hadley

Amos Clark
Nathan Goodwin
Richard Goodwin
Beniman Hadley
Edmund Sayer
Nathan Hunt
Obediah Wels

New Town Petition.

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour in Chieff in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp^{re} in New England and to the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Council.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants that Live in Almsbury District & in South Hampton in the Province aforesaid

Humbly *Sheweth* That Several of your Petitioners have for many Years past been under very Difficult & Melancholy Circumstances because of their Liveing three or four Miles from any Place of Publick Worship which is very hard upon them at any time of the Year and Especially in the Winter Season when it is almost impossible for them and much more for their

families to attend the Publick worship a Considerable Part of their Time.

But in the midst of these discouragements your Petitioners have for some years Past Pleased themselves with the hopes that if a Kind Providence would sooner or later Provide for their Better Accommodation. However these agreeable hopes have in some measure been retarded by the Settlement of the Line between the two Provinces and also by the Grant of the Township of South Hampton By Virtue of which Grant Several of your Petitioners fall within that Township and are obleedged to Pay their rates there Notwithstanding such your Petitioners humbly Conceive that when the Meeting House was erected there the Managers of that affair had Little or no regard to their accommodation but on the Contrary could not but be Senseble that we could not Possibly attend the Publick worship in South Hampton for a Great Parte of the Year because of the Extraordinary Difficultys in Passing over Powow river which is very often overflowed by reason of Several Dams that are built thereon which Deplorable Circumstances have Put your Petitioners upon Preparing to Erect a Meeting House in the Most Suitable place they could find for that Purpose, and it is so situated that it will accommodate near sixty families and scarce any of them be obleedged to Travel above Two Miles. Your Petitioners therefore humbly hope that the Consideration of their great hardships will so far prevail with your Excellencies & your Honour as to grant them a Parish Bounded as followeth: Beginning at a White ash Tree by Powows river which is said to be a bound of Chapleys Line and so following said Line to the West of Powows Pond so called so running South West to Haverhill Line so called and so following Haverhill Line to the Province Line and so following the Province Line Easterly to Powows river and so following the said river to our beginning and your Petitioners are the rather encouraged to expect some favour from your Excellency Because your Late Hon^r father was so remarkably famous for Benevolence & Condescension and we humbly Trust & hope that those Paternal accomplishments will Equally attend your Wise & just administration and we also flatter ourselves with some hopes of success from the Honesty & Justice of our Case & Especially when we beg Leave to affirm that this our humble Petition Proceeds not from a Spirit of Strife & faction or for want of Due affection to any of the Neighbouri. g Ministers but Purely from a hearty Desire of haveing a Convenient Place to Worship God in constantly after the manner of our forefathers and according to the usual Custom of the Established Churches in this Country, and therefore your Petitioners Humbly hope that your Excelency & your Hon^{rs} will Grant them such relieff in

the Premises as shall be most agreeable to Equity & Good Conscience.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

The Petitioners Names that Live in Almsbury District.

Joseph Bartlet	David X Elliot his mark
William Rowell	Thomas Carter
Cutting Farrier	Daniel Sargent
Thomas Bedle	David Sargent
Dan ^l Kelly	William X Sargent his mark
Henry Bagley	David Bayley
Andrew Whittier	Thomas X Greenfield his mark
Timothy Whittier	Henry X Flood his mark
Samuel Jewel	Ezra X Tucker his mark
Daniel Gould	Sam ^l X Hadley his mark
Henry Flood X his mark	Peter Colby
Gideon Bartlet	David Colby
David Morton X his mark	Samuel X Jewel his mark
Abraham Merrill	Moses X Colby his mark
William Fowler	John Challis

Those that live in South Hampton.

Jonathan Farren	Rogals X Colby his mark
David Goodwin	Cateb Hobbs
Robert Martin	Timothy Farren
Samuel X Goodwin his mark	Jonathan Watson
Daniel Goodwin	Micah Hays
Jonathan X Kimball his mark	John Eliot
Roger Eastman	Jacob Colby
Philip Challis	David X Colby his mark
Nathaniel Ash	Aron Currier
his	Caleb X Hobbs his mark
William X Sargent	James X George his mark
mark	Zacheus X Colby his mark
Nathaniel Asbery	Benjamin Kimbal
George Master	

Copy attest^d

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Preferred the 18th April 1744

In the House of Representatives Apr. 15th 1744 The within Petition Read & Voted That the Petitioners serve the Select men of South Hampton with a Copy of the within Petition & Votes thereon to appear the 3^d day of the sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m after the first day of May next, to shew Cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted, the Charges to be paid by the Petitioner.

James Jeffry Cle^t Ass^m

Report of a Committee.

Province of }
New Hamps. } We the Subscribers being appointed by his Excellency
the Governor and the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council a
Committee to goe and View the Land and Settlements mentioned in a
Petition of Joseph Bartlett & others Inhabitants of Almsbury District

May 27th 1745

praying to be Incorporated into a Parish &c: and to take with us the Petition & Vote of the Town of South Hampton and to Notify the Select men of South Hampton &c.

Agreeable whereto we met at the House of Capt Joseph Bartlett in said District on the 15th Ins^t (Having Seven days Before Notified the Select Men of South Hampton and the Select men of Kingston of the time Place & Purpose of Our Meeting) where being attended by the Select men of South Hampton and Maj^r Stevens being present to say for Kingston: we proceeded to Enquire Into the Circumstances of the Petitioners and other Inhabitants thereabout and Having heard and Consider'd the things offered and then Viewed the Situation and Circumstances of the Places &c. We beg leave Humbly to Report that it appears to us that the Circumstances of the Petitioners are Such that they Cannot without Great Difficulty attend the Publick Worship and other Publick affairs at South Hampton or bejoynd to any Neighboring Place for their accommodation So that it appears to us Reasonable that they Should be Incorporated into a Parish by Meets & bounds as follows (Viz:) To begin at the white Ash Tree by Powers River Mentioned in their Petition and from thence westwardly to follow Shapleys line so Called till it comes to Powers Pond so Called and then to follow the Pond to the South east corner of the long Cove so Called, and from thence on a straight line to the Northwest End of the Long Cassway on the Road from Kingstown to Swetts ferry, and from thence on a Straight line to John Peasley's juner. Barn and from thence on a straight Course towards Timothy Emerson's house till it strikes Haverhill line so called (allowing to any Inhabitants of Kingstown the liberty of Polling with their Estates Into this Parish if they Desire it and Give in their names to the Select men of this new Parish within one year after they are Incorporated into a Parish) and from thence to follow Haverhill line to the Province line then to follow the Province line Eastwardly to Powers River, and so following said River to the Bounds first Mentioned: Allowing to Cap^t Jonathan Currier Richard Currier & Larrance Straw liberty if they see Cause and their Estates to Poll to South Hampton and as there are some of the Inhabitants of South Hampton who own Some land that falls within the Bounds aforementioned that those lands while they belong to the Inhabitants of South Hampton pay taxes to South Hampton.

All which is Humbly Submitted By

Joshua Wingate
Eben^r Stevens
Meshech Weare

Petition of Inhabitants in West part of Almsbury respecting a Parish.

Almsbury Deastrick January 10 y^e 1745-6

To the honre'd Geanral Cort in Porchmoth

humbly Sueath we hous nams are under written Lyuing in the west Eand of Almsbury Deastrick Lately heard that we are Sourounded with a Pertition for a Parish without our knolidge or Leave, it Being a Deficalt and Chargabel time on account of the wars and sum of the Pertitioners. Being But 10 in Estate which we humbly Conseave will not be abel

to Seuport the Charge which will neasecary arise, Nither can we think it will be for the Glory of God to force any man to do that he is not abel nor willing to do, we humbly Pray you the honred Cort that you Consider us and not force us aganst our wills and ability.

John Marten
Thomas Davis
Samuel Davis
George Hadley
Francis Chase
Amas Davis
Moses Sanders
Jacob Davis

Robert Stuart
Jeremiah Carleton
Moses Carlton
Sargent Heath
Parrot Hadley
Samuel Hadley Junior
Filip Sargent

The Petition of Sam^l French and others against a new Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Governour in Cheif in and over his Majsties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the hon^l: his Maj^{ties} Council Jan y^e 15 1745-6.

We the Select men of South Hampton have taken opportunity At this time to Express our loyalty to the Kings Majesty and our Duty to your Excellency and Honours. We humbly confide in your tender Regard for us and whereas we have settled a church of our lord Jesus a Mong us that you will protect us so that we May be able to Support it.

Whereas there has been appointed by his Excellency the Governour and the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council a Committee to go and view the lands and Settlement Mentioned in y^e Petition of Joseph Bartlett and other Inhabitants of Amesbury District and to take with them y^e petition and y^e vote of y^e Town of South Hampton (and we the Select men of South Hampton being Served with a Copy of y^e Committee's Report we Humbly begs leave to oppose the vote and y^e Report of y^e Committee for y^e Reasons here after Mention^d first as to the vote our Dissenting bretheren presented a petition to y^e Town at a legal Meeting Held at South Hampton September y^e 29 1742 which is as followeth.

September y^e 29, 1742. We whose Names are under written do petition to y^e town o^f South Hampton that they would agree to pass a vote that that part of y^e town which Lieth upon y^e west side of powers River should be set off as soon as they are in order to settle a Minister that is More Convanant for them that is as many as shall be willing to be set off then we will agree to holy support y^e Minister here till then If you will finish y^e meeting house and settel a Minister upon your Charge,

and like wise to Release us from doing anything toward the meeting house that has been past.

Jonathan Farren

Micah Hoyt

James George

John Eliot

Aaron Currier

David Goodwin

David Martain

Timothy Farren

Thomas Greenfield

John Sargent

Abraham Merrill

Robart Martain

Nathaniel Ash

Phillip Challish

Samuel Goodwin

William Sargent

Caleb Hobs

Daniel Goodwin

George Martain

Jon^a Kimball

Benj^a Kimball

Roger Easman

David Colby

Jacob Colby

Zaccheus Colby

Jon^a Watson

A true Copy of their petition.

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk

2ly we told our Dissenting brethren that we could not set them off for we had no power to Encorporate our selves into a town so we had no power to make any secession but we told our Dissenting brethren that it was a time of Grate charge with us and if they would Joyne with us in our Extraordinary charges that when they should be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain y^e Gospel of christ among them then we would pay back all their part of y^e Extraordinary charges that should arise to them in finishing y^e Meeting house setteling a Minister and bulding for him We Did not make our Dissenting brethren this offer because they Could Make any Majority upon us but we Did it for peace we considering how good it is for brethren to Dweel to geather in love and unity and that peace is the beauty of a society and it was so nessary and so valuable that we ar Ready to sacrifice anything to procure it Saving only a good conscience and so we proceeded to a Vote which is as followeth.

At a meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton September y^e 29, 1742

Cornet Abraham Brown was Chosen moderator for y^e Same Meeting. At y^e same meeting it was taken in to consideration that whereas there are a number of Inhabitants of y^e upper or west part of this town that live at a Considerable Distance from Meeting and have thought in time to be better accommodated, then Constantly to Assemble with us and we being Desirous to Exercise all Christian Regard and Kindness to them, Votes first that all those persons that lives above or to y^e Westward of Capt. Jon^a Currier's that have a mind to go off and be a parish shall have their Extraordinary Charge that they are now at among us paid back again to them that is to say all their part of y^e Extraordinary Charges that shall arise to them by finishing y^e Meeting house setteling a Minister and bulding for him when they shall be thought capable by Lawfull authority to Maintain y^e Gospel of christ among them provided they do not molest or hinder us of y^e other part in our speedy Seteling a Gospel Minister among us and that they pay toward his support while they are of us or belong to us hoping at y^e same time they will of their own free will be assisting to us.

2ly voted that we will make no opposition to them in their indeavour to be a Regular town or parrish whenever they shall be thought Capable by lawfull authority

Voted in y^e affirmative.

A true copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town clerk.

3ly We sent a Committee to the Association meeting of y^e Rev. Ministers at y^e Rev. Mr. Coffins in Kingston lower parrish to ask advice how we should proceed in a Regular way to settle a Gospel Minister among us and there appeared some of our Dissenting brethren and opposed y^e Vote and said we did that only for a Sham for we knew they could not make a parish but we should say when they and their neighbors could make a parish whereas we Drew y^e vote according to their petition and they never ask us to set them off to Joyn with their neighbors for there is not such a word in their petition as their neighbours :

4ly We call'd a town meeting which is as followeth At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton November y^e 26 : 1742

John Flanders was chosen Moderator for y^e same meeting. At y^e same meeting it was taken into Consideration that whereas we y^e Inhabitants of this town being in present want of a pious Larned orthodox Minister of a good Conversation to Dispense y^e word and Administer y^e ordinances of our lord Jesus among us and it being our Duty to look up to Heaven for Divine assistance to guide us in all our affairs, therefore voted that thursday y^e 2 day of December next is appointed to be a day of fasting and prayer in order for y^e calling and settling a Gospel Minister among us.

Voted and past in y^e Affirmative.

At a meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton Feb. y^e 15 1742-3 Joseph French was chosen Moderator, at y^e same meeting it was put to vote whether the town would Chuse the Rev Mr. Odlin and the Rev. Mr. Gookins and their Messengers to be assistant in Council with the other ministers for gathering a church and carrying on y^e ordination among us and y^e vote past in y^e affirmative.

A true copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk

8ly y^e Rev Council came to our assistance y^e day appointed and y^e Rev^d Mr. Caleb Chusing was Moderator, and our Dissenting brethren appeared in Council and objected against Some of the Council and y^e Moderator. Ask them who they wear and they said Mr. Joseph Parsens Mr. Sam^l Parsons and Mr. Fogg, the Moderator ask them what they had against them men they said they were akend to y^e man that was to be ordained the Moderator ask them what they had against y^e man that was to be ordained as to his life and Conversation or his Doctrine and they Eledge nothing but they said y^e province line would be Removed and then they should lose the money they Expended with us and they had not a Covenant way. the Moderator told them that could be no bar against Seteling a minister if y^e province line should be moved we must petition to the Massachusetts Court for a parish and as to high ways y^e law provides how they should get them so not withstanding all their opposition and Allegations y^e Rev^d Council see their way Clear to proceed to the ordaining y^e Rev. Mr. Parsons in y^e work of y^e Ministry among us.

9ly we voted that we would pay back again to them all their part of the Extraordinary Charge that should arise to them by finishing y^e meeting house Setteling a minister and bulding for him but then there was a Condition anexed to that vote, it was provided they did not molest or hinder us of y^e other part in our Speedy settling a gospel minister among us. Now some of our Dissenting brethren say they have not hinder us in settling a Minister but how came it to pass that they did not hinder us, it was because they could not hinder us. they molested us and they opposed us from place to place and from time to time, they Entered their Contrary Dissents once and again against our regular proceedings in an orderly way to settel a minister among us and

they did not enter contrary dissents only against the Rev Mr. Parsons but against all the Candidates for y^e Ministry so that if they could have Got their wills, we had never had a Gospel Minister Setteld with us to y^e end of the world.

10^{ly} all these Molestations Interruptions and oppositions we have met with from our Dissenting brethren since we offered them that vote yet now they would skreen themselves under that vote when they never Full-Fill'd y^e Conditions of y^e vote in any one Article. For if they had Concured with us we had no need to have called so many town meeting nor been put to such an Extraordinary Charge in Sending from town to town and from one parish to another about y^e Country to call in that Grand Council for two or three y^e neighbouring ministers would have done our bissness in y^e morning before y^e ordination.

11^{ly} After we offered our Dissenting brethren that vote we made them another offer that whereas they had not then Rais'd their meeting house that if they would set it one mile above y^e upper end of our town and then our meeting houses would stand four miles and a half apart and then we would be willing they should have a midle line and that would be but two miles and one quarter each way and we thought that could not be hard for any to go to meeting.

At the same meeting Cap^t Jonathan Currier and Joseph French jun. was chosen a Committee to call in y^e assistance of y^e neighbouring Ministers to Celebrate a day of Fasting and prayer among us.

Voted and past in y^e affirmative.

Nathaniel Ash
Jonathan Ferran
James George
Daniel Goodwin
Jacob Colby

Sam^l Goodwin
John Elliot
David Goodwin
Phillip Challis,
David Colby

enters their contrary Dissents against y^e vote for y^e last which was for calling and Setteling a gospel Minister among us.

A true copy of y^e votes and all y^e Dissenters that lives above or to y^e westward of Powers River.

Attest Reuben Dimond town Clerk.

5^{ly} the Rev. Ministers which we called to our assistance came up y^e Day appinted and our Dissenting brethren appeard and opposed the Rev. Ministers which we had called to our assistance and they beat off y^e fore noon Exercise yet notwithstanding all their opposition and allegations the Rev ministers did see their way clear to proceed in y^e afternoon to y^e work of y^e day whereunto they were called

6^{ly} At a meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton December y^e 27, 1742, John Flanders was chosen Moderator for y^e same meeting, at y^e same meeting it was voted that we give y^e Rev. Mr. William Parsons a call to settel in y^e work of the gospel ministry among us. Voted in y^e affirmative at y^e same meeting

James George
Jon^l Ferran
Aaron Currier
David Goodwin
David Colby
Daniel Goodwin
Zacheus Colby
Philip Challis

Jon^a Watson
Sam^l Goodwin
Rogles Colby
Roger Easman
Jacob Colby
Robert Martain
Micah Hoyt

enters their contrary Dissents against y^e vote for calling and seteling y^e Rev. Mr. William Parsons or any other man in y^e work of y^e ministry under their present curcomstances.

the meeting was adjourned from y^e 27 Day of December 1742 to y^e 3 Day of Jan^y 1742-3 the meeting was Readjourned from y^e 3 Day of Jan. 1742-3 to y^e 17 day of y^e presen Jan^y at 12 of y^e clock.

At y^e Readjournment of y^e same meeting it was voted that the 23 Day of Feb. next is appinted to be a day of ordination among us. Voted in y^e affirmative.

At y^e same meeting John Ordway Thomas Merrill Joseph French and Abraham Brown was chosen a Committee to send letters to y^e Rev. ministers and messengers to be assistant in gathering a church and in ordaining y^e Rev. Mr. William Parsons in y^e work of y^e ministry among us. Voted in y^e affirmative.

At y^e same meeting y^e Rev. Mr. Chusing Mr. Whiple Mr. Joseph Parsons Mr. Sam^l Parsons Mr. Fogg Mr. Webster Mr. Coffin were chosen a council to Carry on y^e work of y^e ordination among us. Voted in y^e affirmative.

A true copy of y^e votes and all y^e Dissenters that lives above or to y^e westward of Powers River.

Attest

Reuben Dimond town clerk

7th We Call the Rev. Council to set y^e day before y^e ordination and we notified our Dissenting brethren that they might come and shew Reasons if any they had why y^e minister should not be ordained, but before y^e time appointed Came we heard that our Dissenting brethren had made Report that they would take of our Council for some were a kind to y^e man that was to be ordained and others had given Judgment before, so we hearing of their Strategem and not being Ignorant of their Devices we considered it was eser to prevent a Desease then to cure it or to Keep an adversary out while he was out than to git him out when he is in, so we being forewarned we thought it best to be fore armed, so we call'd the town togeather again to chuse other ministers, but our Dissenting brethren was very Refractory and said What must you appint a place for us to set our Meeting house? no thats what we wont Do.

12th the Gent'men Committee that was appointed by his Excellency Governour and the Hona^{ble} his Majesties Council to view the lands and Settelments mentioned in y^e petition of Joseph Bartlett and others came by your houses to our Meeting house about a mile below Powers River and they never vied y^e situation of y^e east end of y^e town to see the Difficult sircomstances that them people labours under in going to y^e Publick worship and so never considered whether we were capable to make a parrish or not but say it appears Reasonable to them if y^e petitioners should be Incorporated into a parrish by meets and bounds and according to their boundarys they comes within a mile of our meeting house and so they have taken of all y^e inhabitants that lives west of our meeting house saving four houses and so it appears to us that it will brake up an old parrish to a new one.

13th the petitioners petitioned for a parrish beginning at a white Ash tree by Powers River and from thence to fowllow Shapleys line so called till it comes to the head or Westerly part of Powers pond so called and then to Run South West to Haverhill line so called and from thence to follow Haverhill line to the province line, then to follow y^e province line easterly to Powers River and so following s^d River to y^e first mentioned bound and y^e Gent^{men} Committee say they being attend by y^e Selectmen of South hampton and Major Stevens being present to say for Kingston, In fact it appears to us that Major Stevens said well to save Kingston for he or they have cut doun their petition from y^e head or westerly part of powers pond so called to y^e South east corner of y^e long Cove so called and not allowing y^e petitioners to En-

clude any land or Settlements within y^e line of their petition that Kingston claims but they have un Reasonably Entruded upon South hampton a lettell poor parish at y^e best are much Inferiour to Kingston upper parish both as to men and Eastes.

14th the Gent^{men} Committee say that it appears to them that y^e Circumstances of y^e petitioners are such that they cannot without greate Difficulty attend y^e publick worship at South Hampton, we answer we had liberty to build a Cassway on a mans land and accordingly we built a Cassway and built a bridge and there are severl Families that lives to y^e west of Powers River that have all ways attended y^e publick worship with us ever sence we have been Incorporated into a town and there are some that come several times to our meeting y^t lives above y^e west end and y^e other Inhabitants might come as well as their neighbours and we should have had a commodious highway before this time if they had not opposed us and put it by but now we have laid out a new highway from y^e highway y^t leads from y^e meeting house to a highway or publick Rhoad that leads from Kingston through y^e west part of South hampton to Amsbury.

15 the gent^{men} Committee say it appears to them that y^e petitioners cant be Joyned to any neighbouring place for their accomodation but it appears to us that they can or else where is that Inhabitants that belongs to Kingston that they have given libity to pole to this new parrish if they Desire it, if y^e petitioners had set their meeting house higher up then there might have been some taken of y^e upper end of South hampton and some of Kingston and have made a good parrish and not have broken up South hampton.

16th if our Dissenting brethren can git to Powers River for a Dividin line to make them a parish it will sartainly break up ours and we shall take it hard that an old parrish should be broke up for a new one for they will come within a mile of our meeting house and take off all y^e houses most of our meeting house but foure and then our brethren at y^e east end of y^e town say y^e meeting stands at one end of y^e people and there going off at y^e west end of y^e town dont bring y^e meeting house any nearer to them but makes them a great Deal more Charge to pay and they as fur from meeting as ever and they say if those men which were petitioners for y^e town May go off, surly they that were non petitioners may go off also and so they will be annexed to Kingston parrish and then there are some of our brethren that lives on y^e northerly part of the Town y^t say if they goes off at both ends of y^e town then they will be annexed to Kingston lower parrish for it is Impossible that the middle part should support the Charges and then there are a few families that lives next to y^e Province line that can in no wise Support the charges nor Do y^e Duty of a town and we humbly Conceive that this Hon^{able} Court wont set them off to Joyn with Salisbury because this is a seprate Government and so them men are fitt for no body and so they are in that affair of all men y^e most misrable

17th if twenty men in this town should Divide this town they will Encourage thirty in another town and them thirty will say if twenty can Divide a town surly thirty can and so they will goe on from bad to worse till they Grow Incorrigible, if these Examples should be tolerated in these our Dissenting brethren they will Corrupt other and if it should be followed by many it would prove y^e Dissolution an Confusion of touns parishes and Churches for as sone as y^e minor part sees they cant make a majority upon y^e Major part they say we will have a meeting house and a minister of our own and so insted of having a Great many meeting houses and ministers in a littel time there wont be any for they cant possible be supported.

18th if this Hon^{able} court Should see fit in your Great wisdom set

off these petitioners according to y^e bounderies of y^e Committee Report Then we Humbly pray that we might be annexed to y^e town that we lays ajacent to for we cant in no wise support y^e charges nor Do the Duty of a town.

19 We do Declare this Day to this Hon^{able} court that we have not willfully Endeavoured to take any Indirect way contrary to the law of our province to Defraud any brother [we wish our Dissenting brethren all well] we wish brotherly love might be with us and Continue, we wish that Grace Marcy and peace might be multiplied among us that the God of love and peace might Dweel with us, we wish all things might be done with Charity, we wish we might have a Quiet and peaceable Settlement ina Way of Righteousness that we might all be built to eternal life through Faith in Jesus Christ our lord.

20^y by what has been all Ready offered we Doubts not but your Excellency and Honours in your great wisdom and Goodness will see Just Cause to Reverse y^e vote and petition of our Dissenting brethren and accordingly Grant our Request.

REUBEN DIMOND	} Selectmen for South Hampton
et SAM FRENCH	

South Hampton
Jan y^e 14, 1745-6.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council Jan y^e 15, 1745-6

the Petition of Sundry of y^e Inhabitants of South Hampton living at y^e East end of the town Humbly *Sheweth*,

Whereas in time past there was Sundry petitioners of y^e Northerly part of Salisbury and Almsbury which by Runing y^e Province Line was taken into y^e province of New Hampshire which preferd a petition to this Honourable Court in order to obtain a town or parish and we your Humble Petitioners Did at y^e Same time prefer a petition to this Honourable Court and Humbly offerd that we could in no wise joyn with them in any of their proceedings of that nature, but we petition'd that we might be annexed to Kinsington parrish but this Honourable Court in their great wisdom Did not see fit to grant our petition but Incorporated us with the other petitioners into a town Called by y^e name of South Hampton but now we understand that there has been a Committee sent by this Honourable Court to view y^e lands and Settlements of those petitioners that lives at y^e west end of our town and that have made Report that it appears to them Reasonable that they with others should be Incorporated into a parrish by Meets and bounds and according to their butment to Powers River they comes within a mile of our Meeting house and they have taken of all y^e Inhabitants that lives west of our

Meeting house save four houses and so they have brought y^e Meeting house to one end of y^e people and there are some famlys at y^e east end of y^e town that lives as far from meeting by y^e Road as Most of them at y^e west end of y^e town and their going off Don't bring y^e Meeting house any Nearer to us but it makes us a great Deal More Charge to pay and we are as far from Meeting as ever And we Humbly Conceive that if those men which were petitioners for y^e town may go off that those men which were non petitioners may go off also.

Wherefore we your Humble petitioners which formily proferd a petition to this Honourable Court and some other of our Neighbors Humbly begs leave to revive our former petition and pray that we may be annexed to Kirsington parrish and there Do our Duty and there Injoy the priviledgs of townsmen, so shall we as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

Jan^y y^e 14, 1745-6

Sam^l French
Ephraim Brown
Eliphilet Maxfield
Asa Flanders
Samuel Flanders
Abraham Brown
Amos Page
Daniel Page

Jacob Fowler
Abner Fowler
Daniel Carter
Nathanel French
Caleb Clough
Humphrey Clough
Benjamin Brown

Petition of Mr. Thomas Fowler against a new parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqu Captain General and Governour in Cheif in and over his Majesties province of New hampshire in New England. and to the Honourable his Majesties Council Jan^y y^e 15 1745-6.

The petition of sundry persons whose name are under Ritten humbly sheweth whereas we your humble petitioners being as we apprehend Enclused within y^e line of a petition of sundry petitioners belonging to South hampton and there about which are about to be Incorporated into a parrish and we your humble petitioners humbly offer that we can in no wise joyn with them in any of their proceeding in that nature, for there are y^e best part of twenty of these petitioners that some are moved out and others that are not able to Support y^e Charges nor Do y^e Duty of a parrish and there are eaight families that are Enclused within y^e line of their petition that are Quakers and y^e most of them y^e best livers in y^e line of their petition and they are Exempted by law from Ministry charges and y^e Meeting house Don't stand in y^e Right place it ought to be

moved further up toward Kingston and there it would accommodate more people.

Jan^r y^e 10, 1745-6

THOMAS FOWLLER
JOSEPH FOWLLER.

At a lagual Meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton July y^e 7th 1748 John Paige Esqr was chosen Moderator.

At y^e same Meeting it was Consider'd that whereas there are a Number of persons that Lives at y^e west end of this town that thinks they can better accommodate themselves by joyning with their Neighbours for a Meeting house then Constantly to Assemble with us and we being willing to shew them all Christian Regard and Kindness voted that all those persons that lives at y^e west end of this town that have a Mind to go off shall have y^e Liberty to pole of themselves and their Estates which they now have and joyne with their Neighbours in y^e District for a parrish in all affairs provided they pole off or File a list of their Names with his Excellency the Governor within thirty Days from y^e Day of y^e Date hereof.

Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copy

Attest Reuben Dimond town clerk

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esquire Capt. General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New hampshire in New England and to y^e honorable his Majesties Council in General Court Assembled.

The petition of sundry whose Names are hereafter Subscribe humbly *sevveth* that we your petitioners under stand that there are Certain men of Almsbury District and some of South Hampton that have in time past prefered a petition to this Honourable Court praying to be Incorporated into a parrish by mets and bounds begining at a white ash tree standing by Powers River and so to fowllor Shaples Line to y^e west end of powers pond so called and then to Run South west to haverhill Line and then to foller haverhill line till it meets y^e province line and then to foller y^e province line Easterly to Powers River and then to fowller Powers River up to y^e beginning and we your petitioners apprehend that we are Included within y^e lines and boundrys of their petition and we humbly offer to this Hon^{ble} Court that we cant in any wise Joyne with them for a parrish, for these Reasons. First their proceeding as to a Parrish have been very privet as to our Knowledge ever since y^e year 1742 and they having given out word as we hear y^t we wear not worth asking to Joyne with them but if they could git their petition granted then they would order us as they see fit but God in his all wise Providence has furnished us

with a place for his Publick worship more convenant than it can be for us to be compeled to joyne with them we your petitioners have been at charge to promote y^e Gospel of christ peaceably and it will be very prejudicial for us to stand in such a Relation with them.

Dated July 29, 1748

James Davis
Robert Stuart
Joseph Rogers
Samuel Stuart
Moses Davis
Philip Davis
his
Thomas X Davis
mark
Jacob Davis

Jonathan Carlton
Thomas Johnson
his
Jonathan X Ordway
mark
Joseph Ordway
William Collins
Francis Chase
Peter Colby
Jacob Challis

To his Excelency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England &c.

Whereas the Sec^{ry} by your Excelency command Did Recommend a letter to us y^e Select men of South Hampton Dated June y^e 14th 1748 Signifying that y^e Inhabitants of Almsbury District have set forth their unhappy Situation and they are Desirous y^t y^e town would Set off a sufficient Number of Inhabitants to their assistance or else they would be an next to South Hampton &c that is what y^e town cant in no wise agree to y^t y^e District should be an next to y^e town for y^e Reasons Fowling. 1st we apprehend that them men wont be Contented without a Nother Minister and two Ministers is what we cant possible Support among such a Small number of people and upon such a Narrow Strip of Land and we have several poor people among us and we have for several years past been involved in a soar and a greivious war w^{ch} has Created a great charge and what will be the Result there of we know not and it has pleased Almighty God in his all wise providence to visite many families among us with a soar and Long sickness which has caused great Expençe for Physicians Nursing and other Nesicaries.

2^{ly} there wear thirty men or there about among us who at y^e first erected our meeting house and laid out between three and four hundred pounds in that way and them men gave it up to y^e town for y^e towns use to make peace, so our contending brethren at y^e west end of y^e town paid Nothing toward that charge and we have built a passonage house and barn and fenced our passonage and there were Cartain men among us that Duge

a well for our Minister and Stoned it and there wear other generous men built a pound and gave that to y^e town for y^e towns use, so our Contending brethren paid Nothing toward Either of them and we have laid out a great Deal of money in purchasing high ways in y^e town and we have got a high way that Leads Directly from our meeting house up among y^e Inhabitants at y^e west end of y^e town and we have built a spacious bridge over y^e River and made it a fine way and it is traveled by many of his Majesties good Subjects and our Contending brethren have no Need to complain for want of a way for they may come to meeting with the neighbors if they would and this may Inform your Excellency that these Extraordinary Charges we have been Exposed to.

3^{ly} if y^e District should be annex to South Hampton we humbly Conceive that they will make a Majority and then they will oblige us to help them and pay our proportion with them in finishing their Meeting house which is only a frame with a few boards on it.

And build them a parsonage house and barn and Dig a well and buy them a parsonage and fence it which will in this Day Cost of our money near four thousand pounds old tennur as it has been Computed.

Now for these men of the District to Desire to be annex to South Hampton and make us bear such an Extraordinary charge with them when they never paid y^e thousandth part of a penny toward our Extraordinary Charges it appear to us to be an actually cheat and a piece of oppression and it is very unadequate and if your Excelency should be pleased to grant them men their Disire in this thing it would make a prodigious Quarrel and prove the Dissolution and Confusion of our town and our Latter end will be worse then our beginning for y^e annexing of them men to South Hampton cant be for the good of y^e town, it Directly and surely tends in y^e Natural Course of things to our utter Ruin and Destruction, the Subversion of our Constitution and it Deprives us of our just Rights and it lays Such a heavey yok upon our necks that we nor our children Cant bear.

4^{ly} our Contending brethren the Cheif men that oppose us signed our petition with us and we never Intended to make but one parrish and since they Retrograded and gon back from what they sign'd with us and if they had set their meeting house one mile or there about higher up in y^e District they might have men enoufe to Joyn with them to make a good parrish and not have broke up South Hampton, but our contending brethren with some others of y^e District have set up a frame of a meeting house just over y^e Line at y^e west end of our town where it would sut them and they think we are bar-

barous to Disire them to assemble with us and yet they would tak of a Number from us against their wills who sets Down easy with us and Count that no barbarity at all and if our Contending brethren think it hard to joyn with us against their wills then Consequently they may think it hard for our brethren who set down easy at y^e first and went on chearfully with us in all our Extraordinary charges to be forced to Joyne with them against their wills and so we will force no man to go off from us but give every man his liberty to go or stay and since your Excellency has desired that we would set off a sufficient number to their assistance we Know no Number more sufficient to go off than they that are willing

RICHARD COLLINS jun.	} Select men of South Hampton
RICHARD CURRIER	
BENJAMIN BROWN	

South Hampton papers Setting off 28 persons to a New Town.

Province of	} To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Governor &c.	South hampton July the 18 th 1748
New Hampshire		

Excelent Sir.

After Returning you hearty thanks for your care and kindness toward us we once more make bold to trouble you with a few lines &c.

And first of all wee woold mention to your Excellency the Late proceeding of South hamton in a meeting on the 7th instant at which meeting they past a voat as folloeth (without the Least regard or reference to your Excelencys Direction in your Late Letter) with a plasable pretence of christianity gieves Liberty to all persons that lieve att the west end of the town to pole of within thirty days with their Estates that they now have in which they have no regard to any Lands or Estate own'd by any persons that are not inhabitants in the town notwithstanding there is Considerable of Lands ownd by persons that are not inhabitants who have been with us in all our trouble and charg and we doubt not but that they woold be yet with us had they the Liberty.

but however South hamton might flater themselves that few or none woold pole off on such a footing as they put it yet by the good providence of God wee whose names are under written by your Excelencys leave are resolved to pole off in order to be incorporated in to a Parrish with those of the des-

trict within the Limets or boundaries of the Com^{tees} Reporte unless your Excellency Should provide better for us.

Jonathan Farren
Micah Hoyt
Tho^s Tuxbery
Tho^s Carter
Benja Carter
Orlando Carter
Benj^s Kimball
John Carter
Sam^l Carter
Jacob Colby
Rogies Colby
Nathan^l Colby
Jonathan Watson
Roger Easman
Sam^l Goodwin

Robert Martin
James George
David Colby
Zacheus Colby
Jonathan Kimball
Aaron Currier
Tho^s Jewel
Phillip Challis
Daniel Goodwin
Tho^s Greenfield
Nathanel Ash
Abraham Merrill
David Goodwin
Zebulon Farren
John Eliot

P. N. Hamp These Certify that the List of the mens names above mentioned were entred with his Excellency the Governour & lodged in the Sec^ys office the 2^d day of August 1748.

Attest^r

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

On the Charter Is to be Enter'd the Vote of South Hampton July 7th 1748

Polled off July 18 1748
Polled off Aug 1 1748

28 persons
2 more

—
30

To his Excellency Benning Wenworth Esq^r Capt. General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council in General Court Assembled.

the petition of the Inhabitants of South Hampton humbly *Sheweth* that whereas it was voted at a Meeting held at South Hampton July y^e 7th 1748 that all y^e Inhabitants that lives at y^e west end of this Town that have a mind to go off shall have y^e liberty to poll off themselves and their Estats and Joyne with their Neighbors in y^e District for a parrish in all affairs and there was no provision made in that vote for them that polld off to make and keep their proportion of y^e high ways in good Repair—

Wherefore we your humble petitioners humbly Addresses this Honourable Court and pray that when ever this Honourable Court shall poll them men off to Joyne with y^e District that they may be orderd to make and Repair their proportion of y^e highways in y^e town as they have Done in time past and that y^e new parrish may at their Election Day for chusing parrish officiers Elect one Surveyor or more to order that affair

and keep y^e ways in good Repair from time to time as occasion may Require.

So shall we as in Duty bound ever pray &c.

RICHARD COLLINS	} Selectmen for South Hampton
BENJAMIN BROWN Jun.	
RICHARD CURRIER	

Dated July y^e 20th 1748

Israel Dimond
Samuel Currier
Joseph Chandler
Thomas Merrill
John Flanders
Sam^l Barnard
Samuel French
Jacob Fowler

Reuben Dimond
Henry Currier
Elijah Rowell
Nathanel Merrill
Joseph French
Eliphelet Merrill
Er Colby

Jonⁿ Watson & Roger Easman pole off from South Hampton to the New Town.

Province of New Hampshire	} To his Excelency Bening Wintworth Governor &c.	South Hamton August 1. 1748

Excelente Sir

we having takⁿ into Consideration the ill sircumstances that we mus be under in Case we should not take the Liberty to pole of when we may, we Resolve with y^r Excelencies leve agreable to the Liberty Granted us by the voate of South hamton July 7th 1748 to pole off and desire therefore that our names may be rec'd on file by your Excelency and youl yett further oblig your humble Serv^{ts}

JONATHAN WATSON
ROGER ESMAN

Selectmen of South Hampton about New Town's Petition & Charter, &c.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Governour in chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council

The Petition of Sundery of the Inhabitants of South Hampton Humbly Sheweth that whereas it was voted at a meeting held at South Hampton July the 7 1748 that all those persons that lives at y^e west end of this Town that have a mind to Go

off and joyn with their Neighbors in the District for a parrish should have liberty and there being no provision made in that vote for them polers to make and maintain their proportion of their high ways, Therefore your petitioners aply them selves to your Excellency and Honours and pray that if your Excellency and Honours should see it Reasonable to set them polers to New town that they make and maintain their proportion of y^e high ways in this town and your petitioners pray that New town at their Election Day for chusing town officers may chuse a Surveyor or Surveyors to see that their high ways be kept in good Repair from time to time as occasion may Require and In as much as them polers had Liberty to file a list of their names with his Excellency the Gouvernour within thirty Days and they never served our Select men with a copy and we Dont know that they have filde a list to this Day, therefore we pray that they may pay to us two assessments, One made in the year 1748 and the other in y^e year 1749

So shall we, as in Duty bound ever pray

REUBEN DIMOND	} Selectmen for South Hampton
JOSEPH FRINCH	

Feb. 6, 1749-50

Abner Morrill in behalf of South Hampton says the s^d town is content that New town should Comence Lower Down than their charter now is by a Line from a School house that stands on a highway that leads from South Hampton to Kingston from s^d School house to run South to the curve line & from the school House Northly till it meets a highway Leading to Powo river & then on the East side of y^e road or highway to s^d Powow river then to Shapleys line on y^e same Course.

Thomas Merrill
John Ordway
John Flanders
Sam^r Barnard
Semeon Morel
Abner Morrill

Henery Currier
Samuel Currier
Nathanel Merrill
Prince Flanders
Joshua Clough

Little Harbour 13th Dec^r 1749

Sir:

You are only to Indorse on the charter of New Town as a record from your office

The Vote at South Hampton to poll off Such of their Inhabitants as are returned 18th July 1748 being 28 & Aug 1st 1748, 2—30 in all

This is an act of South Hampton to Enable Newtown to bear the Charges of their town the better and The Act of Government to Incorporate S^d Town has nothing to do with it, only to preserve the record to prevent disorders hereafter.

You will take my fee £5 N. Tenor.

I am Sr.

Your hum Serv^t

B WENTWORTH

Coll^d Atkinson

The first meeting is to be with thirty days after the date of the charter and then annually For ever the last Wednesday March

*Rough Draft of an order in Council for Polling of 30
South Hampton men to N. Town as Voted in Council 22^d
March 1749*

Province of } George the Second by the Grace of God of Great
New Hampshire } Brittain France & Ireland King Defender of the
faith &c.

To all People to whom the Presents Shall come Greeting.

Whereas The Town of South Hampton within our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid for Diverse good & Laudable motives & Considerations thereunto moving Did Voluntarily at a Town meeting held in Said Town by Inhabitants thereof on the 7th Day of July Anno Domini 1748 Pass a Vote in the following words viz: "That all those Persons that Live at the West End of this Town that have a mind to goe off Shall have the Liberty to Poll of themselves & their Estates which they now have & joyn with their Neighbours in the District for a Parish in all affairs Provided they Poll off or file a List of their names with his Excellency the Governour within thirty Days from the Date hereof. And for as much as Jonathan Farren Michael Hoit Tho^s Tuxbury Thomas Carter Benj^t Carter Orlando Carter Benj^t Kimball John Carter, Sam^l Carter, Jacob Coleby, Ruggles Colby Nath^l Coleby, Jon^s Watson, Roger Eastman, Sam^l Goodwin, Robert Martin, James George, David Coleby Zacheus Coleby, Jonathan Kimball, Aron Currier, Tho^s Jewell, Phillip Challis, Daniel Goodwin Theo Greenfield Nathaniel Ash Abraham Merrill, David Goodwin, Zebulon Farren, & John Eliot all Inhabitants in the West End of Said Town of South Hampton, Did file a List of their names with B. Wentworth Esq. our Governor of our said Province & the same was filed in the Secy's office of our afores^d Province on the Second Day of August 1748 within the thirty days in the above recited Vote of the aforesaid Town of South Hampton meentioned, and agreeable to the Intent & tenor thereof

Now know ye that for and in Consideration of the above mentioned vote & at the request of the Several Parties therein Concerned We have tho't fit by further the advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esq^r our Governour & of our Council of our s^d Province of N. Hamps. to order & ordain that the aforesaid Jonathan Farren Michael &c with theirs & each of their Estates they now have in said Town of South Hampton be & hereby are order'd Declared & ordained to be Polled & set off from acting or Voting with the Town of South Hampton afores^d in any of their Town affairs excepting what does or may relate to the repairing or mending the high ways within the Limits of the said Town of South Hampton afores^d with respect to which affairs they are to act & be governed as tho no Vote or order had Past thereon and are hereby together with the Estates they have in South Hampton as also all Persons that shall succeed them in any or either of them in the improving of said estates Declared to be Polled off & annexed to Newtown within our Province afores^d there to Vote & act with s^d Newtown in all their Town affairs as fully to all Intents & Purposes as any other the Inhabitants of said Town can or may do excepting what dos or may relate to the mending or repairing the Highways within the Limits of Newtown which they and Each of them are

hereby Exempt from they having the Liberty of Voteing with & are Subject to the Legal Directions of the Town of South hampton afores^d, of all which all Persons concerned are to take Due notice hereof & Govern themselves accordingly.

In Testimony whereof we have Caused the Seal of our Said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness B. Wentworth Esq^r our Governour & Comander in Chieff of our Prov. of N. Hamp afores^d this 22^d Day of March in the Year of our Lord Christ 1749 & in the 23^d year of our reign

By his Excellencys com^d with advice of Council.

Supplemental Charter of New town.

Province of } George the Second by the Grace of God &c.
New Hampshire }

•To all people to whom these presents shall come

Whereas by our Charter bearing date _____ We have thot fit by & with the advice of our Trusty & well beloved B. W. _____ Esq^r &c. to Incorporate Certain of our well beloved Subjects residing within our Province of New Hampshire on a tract of Land on the Eastern & Southern boundary of our said Province by the name of South Hampton & otherwise Call'd & bounded as by the Charter of Incorporation May more fully appear and whereas the Inhabitants of our said town of South Hampton for diverse Laudable motives & Considerations, did Voluntarily at a Public town meeting held in said town on the _____ set off Certain Inhabitants & their Estates within the Limits & Charter of Incorporation of s^d town of South Hampton the better to Enable a Number of Inhabitants residing within our said Province & lately Incorporated into a township by the name of Newtown, to maintain the Gospel among them & support the other necessary Charges of a town Provided the said Inhabitants did give us their Names into the Secretarys office within _____ days after such Vote & Inasmuch as A, B, C, &c. have regularly given their Names into the s^d office within the time Limited & agreeable to the said Vote of S. Hampton

Know ye that for the Considerations before mentioned, we have tho't fit by & with the advice of our trusty & well beloved B. W. Esqr. & of our Council of our s^d Province to order & ordain that the said Inhabitants of South Hampton herein recited & their Estates agreeable to the vote of said town are & shall be Set off to the town of Newtown.

And the said A. B. C. &c are hereby set off from Acting with South Hampton in their town affairs, & annexed to Newton have full powers & to Vote & act with s^d Newton in their town affairs as fully to all intents & purposes as any of the other inhabitants, of which all persons Concerned are to take due Notice & Govern themselves accordingly.

Given

Witness B. W. &c.

Petition from Almsbury district.

To His Excellency Bening Wintworth Esq^r Cap^t General & Governour In Cheif in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire, To the Hon^r^d Council In s^d Province.

May it Pleas your Excellency and Honors,

Whereas we the Subscribers Living In *Almsbury District* on the Southerly side thereof and Nigh the Nor Westerly corner of Newton are Nigh Naibors to Capt Follinby & belong to Haverhill feet company & live much better to Pay our taxes with Haverhill District and attend the Publick Worship at the Rev^d Mr. Cushings meeting house than we are Like to be By being Set of to Kingston or to Newton: In Removing the Bounds of Newton further west to take us in may serve the Interest of sum But we are Humbly of the opinion that it will Disoblidge more. Our Humble petition to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} is that we may by no means be In cluded In that Town we haveing advised with Haverhill District and Considering we are so much Handier to that Place then Else where they are willing to Receive us. We humbly & Earnestly Beg we may with our Estates be joyned to Haverhill district When ever you shall be pleas^d to establish them In a toun or Re New their District act and we shall Look on our selves In duty ever bound to pray &c

NATHAN HALE
JONATHAN CALTON
AARON STEVENS
THOMAS JOHNSON

[No date.]

[Indorsed]—"The petitioners did belong to Amesbury district, and were not as the bearer says, included in Newtown; so care must be taken not to exclude them, in Cushing's parish. B. W."]

NOTTINGHAM.

[Incorporated 10 May, 1722. ED.]

Original Charter of Nottingham, 10 May, 1722.

George by the Grace of God of Great Britain France & Ireland King,
Defender of the Faith &c.

To all People to whom these presents shall come Greeting, Know ye, That we of our Special Knowledge and meer motion for the Due encouragement of Settling a new Plantation by and with the advice & Consent of our Council have Given and Granted and by these presents as far as in us Lies do Give and Grant in Equall Shares unto Sundry

of our Beloved Subjects whose Names are Entred in a Schedule hereunto annexed That Inhabit or Shall Inhabit within the Said Grant within our Province of New Hampshire all That Tract of Land within the Following Bounds viz: To begin at Dover Westerly Corner Bounds Running along Exeter Northerly line West and by North two miles then along Exeter Head Line South west half a point more Southerly one mile and Three Quarters and from thence upon a West North West point of the Compas Ten miles into the Countrey, Then to Begin again at the afores^d Dover Westerly Corner Bounds and Run North East half a point more Easterly Four miles and a quarter along Dover Head line Then upon a North West point half a Point more Northerly, Thirteen miles into the Countrey and from that Bounds upon a straight line to the End of the aforesaid Ten Mile line And That the Same be a Town Corporate by the Name of Nottingham, To the persons afores^d forever, To have and to hold the said Land to the said Grantees and their Heirs & assigns forever and to Such Associates as they shall admit upon the Following Conditions.

That every proprietor build a Dwelling House within Three years & Settle a family therein and break up three Acres of Ground and plant & Sow the Same within four years and pay his proportion of the Town Charge when & So often as Occasion Shall Require the Same.

2^y That a Meeting House be built for the Publick worship of God within the Said Term of four years.

3^y That upon Default of any particular proprietor in Complying with the Conditions of this charter upon his part, Such Delinquent proprietor Shall forfeit his Share to the other proprietors which Shall be Disposed of according to the Major vote of the said Commonney at a Legal meeting.

4^y That a Proprietors Share be Reserved for a Parsonage another for the first Minister of The Gospel, Another for the Benefit of a School

Provided nevertheless that the Peace with the Indians Continue during the afores^d Term of Three Years, But if it Should so happen that a warr with the Indians Should Comence before the Expiration of the afores^d Term of Three years, The said Term of Three years shall be allowed to the Proprietors after the Expiration of the warr for the Performace of the afores^d Conditions—Rendering & paying therefor to us our heirs & successors or such other officer or Officers as Shall be appointed to Receive the Same the Annual Quit Rent or acknowledgement of one ear of Indian Corn in the Said Town on the Twentieth day of December yearly forever, Resarving also unto our Heirs & Successors all mast Trees growing on the Said Tract of Land (according to the acts of Parliament made & provided) And for the better Order Rule & Government of the said Town we do by these presents for our selves our Heirs & Successors Grant unto the said Men & Inhabitants or those that shall Inhabit the s^d Town That yearly & Every year upon the Last Tuesday in the month of March forever shall Meet to Elect & chuse by the Major part of them Constables Selectmen and other Town officers according to the Laws & usage of our afores^d Province for the year ensuing, with Power & Priviledges & authority of other Towns and Town officers within our afores^d Province have & Enjoy.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our Said Province to be hereunto annexed. Witness Samuel Shute Esqr. our Governour and Command^r in Cheef of our said Province at our Town of Portsmouth the Tenth Day of May in the Eighth Year of our Reign, Annoque Domini 1722

SAM^d SHUTE

By his Excëllency's Command w^h advice of the Council.

Rich^d Waldron Cler. Con.

Note by John Farmer, Esq.

This Charter of Nottingham I found among the Waldron Papers in 1828. It was supposed to be irrecoverably gone, as appears from a Petition of Col. Peter Gilman to the General Assembly 1783 wherein he says "the Record of the original Grant of Nottingham being by the act of God consumed when Secretary Waldron's office was burned (and no attested copy thereof extant" &c. Now this is the original having the autograph of Gov. Shute.

Whereas M^r Shem Drown of boston one of the proprietors of Nottingham haveing obtained a grant of s^t Propriatie of a priveledge for building a mill and of the Priveledge of the whole falls on the South branch of North River near Bow Street and also a grant of fifty Acres of Land adjoining to s^t falls, which fifty acres of Land is Laid out according To grants, beginning at the foot of the falls on the East Side of s^t falls at a hemlock Tree marked S. D. from thence Runing East and be South thirty rods To a hemlock Tree marked with S. D. from thence running South & be East one hundred rods To a beach Tree marked S. D. from thence runing west to the River to a Maple Tree marked S. D. Then begining again at the foot of the falls on the west side at a hemlock Tree mark'd S. D. from thence running west and be north fifty rods To a pine Tree Mark'd S. D. from thence running South west and be South one hundred rods to a beach tree Mark'd S. D. from thence runing East & be South to the river Laid out this fourteenth Day of May one thousand Seven hundred & thirty

by us JOSEPH HALL } Lott layers
EDWARD HALL }

A true Coppy Taken from Nottingham Record

Attes^r

Peter Gilman Prop^r Cler.

Indorsed, "Nottingham Papers March 2^d 1732-3."

We the Subscribers being interested in the Land thro' which it is supposed the High way petitioned for, from Nottingham to New-Market will pass do hereby Signify our Desire to have y^e s^t High Way laid out & confirmed as a Publick High way & our willingness to give land Sufficient for s^t High way wherever it may be laid out thro' our Lotts.

Joseph Hall
Moses Coffin
Robert Barber
Christopher Robinson
Sam^l Sinkler
Sm^l Stevens
Benjamin Sanborn
Theophilus Hardie
Jonathan Colcord
Steven Liford
Richard Malloon ?
James Maston
Sam^l Hilton
Robert Pike

Samuel Mighell
Richard Clark
Isaac Marston
Winthrop Hilton
John Perkins
Richard Sinkler
Fitz William Sargent
Nem^y Gilman
Jam^r Gilman
Tho^s Gilman
Water Neall
Nath^l Talyer
Nath^l Pees

Petition of Capt. Peirce and Dr. Rogers.

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Gov^r & Comander
in cheif in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps^{re}
And to the Hon^{ble} the Councill & the Representatives of said
Province.

The Petition of the Proprietors of y^e Town of Nottingham
Humbly *Sheweth*

That the Proprietors & Inhabitants of s^d Town, are under
very great Difficulties & Disadvantages for want of a Suitable
Road to a convenient landing Place For the High way already
laid out is not only much longer than is necessary, but, not-
withstanding a very considerable expence, the Propriet^r have
been at in clearing & Bridging the same it yet remains impass-
able for loaded Carts unless when the Rivers are very low,
and for as much as there is already a pretty good cart way
(Comonly called Hall's way) four or five miles from the land-
ing place at New Market towards Notingham which if con-
tinued thro' that part of Exeter which is between Notingham
and y^e Parish of New Market, would be above three miles
nearer, & on every other acc^t more convenient. They humbly
therefore pray that there may be a Highway allowed & laid
out thro' y^e above s^d part of Exeter & New Market, which
would be of great advantage not only to Notingham, but to
some of y^e New Towns Settling above it, and your Petitioners
shall ever pray &c

THO^s PEIRCE } Com^{rs}
NATH^l ROGERS }

Portsmth Sept. 23, 1731

In Council Sept^r 23rd, 1731

The within Petition Read, and Voted that a hearing be had thereon
the third day of the next session of the Gen^l Assembly & that the Pe-
titioners serve The Town of Exeter wth a copy thereof and of this order
a month before the day of the hearing by leaving the same wth one of
the Select men of the Said Town that so the said Town may ap-
pear & Shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the s^d Petition
Should not be granted

R. Waldron Sec^y

Eod^m Die.

In the house of Representatives.
the above vote Read and Concurred and likewise the Petitioners
serve those persons thro whose Land Said high way may goe with a
Copy hereof to appeare at the Day & Time above

James Jeffry Cler^k Ass^t

In Council Sept^r 24th 1731

Read & Concurred wth the amendment

R. Waldron Sec^y

The same day

Assented to

J. BELCHER

*Nottingham Petition and Votes thereon.*In Council March 6th 1732-3

Upon the Petition of Nottingham Proprietors for a High Way &c. Voted that the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that the Town of Exeter lay out the said Highway forthwith, as Commodiously as may be for the Town of Nottingham & make a return thereof To the Town Clerk of Exeter, to be recorded as usual in such Cases. Provided Nevertheless that the Said Town of Exeter be at no Charge in building or repairing the Bridge in said High way over Lamprey river, for ten years next following, and Provided also that the Said Town of Exeter be at no charge for purchasing any land for accommodating the said Way below Lamprey River and that Nottingham be at no charge in purchasing any land for the same above said river.

R. Waldron Sec^y

M^{ch} 6th In house of Representatives
read and Concurred

George Walton Cl^k pro tem

Same day Consented to

J. BELCHER

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esquire Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Honourable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province

The Petition of the Inhabitants and Resident Proprietors of the Town of Nottingham Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your said Petitioners have for Sundry years Past Resided in said Town and have for a Great Part of the Time been Destitute of a Preacher of the Gospel among us the cause whereof being chiefly our Inability to afford a suitable Maintainance for a Minister we being but a small Number although the Proprietors were obliged to Settle a family upon Each Right which if it had been Done would have been a Number Sufficient to have Supported a Minister for the Benefit of the Town, but since far the Greatest Part are non Resident and many of them Live out of this Province it cannot but be Highly Reasonable that as they have a Share in the advance of the Common Interest of the Town and it being Consistant with their Votes at Sundry Meetings and also the Most Likely Method to advance the worth of their Lands that they should bear som Suitable Proportion of the charge of a Minister till such time as the Inhabitants shall be able to Bear the Burden alone, we make bold therefore Humbly to Petition your Excellency and Honours to Pass an act to make the lands of such non Resident Proprietors as neglect to Pay such Proportion as to your wisdom shall seem meet to Lay upon them Lyable to be taken by Destraint in Case they do not Pay such assessments and seeing it may be for the Glory of God

the Interest of Religion and the Benefit of your Petitioners we humbly beg that this or some thing more Proper may be Done as to your wisdom Shall appear moste Expedient for the Remedy of the Difficulties we Labour under and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

From Nottingham this 7th Day of November Anno Domini 1738

John Harvey
Sam^l Goodhue
Moses Norris
Nathan Pilsbury
Andrew Luckes
John Cralton
Abraham ——— ?
Rice Rowel
Robairt Baird

Simon Beird
James Lukes
Frances Harve
William Kilce
William Morison
David Morrison
Natt ——— ?
William Neall
Rob^t Harvey

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{le} His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened.

The Inhabitants of Nottingham in said Province Take this Opportunity Thankfully to acknowledge your Goodness in Sending and Supporting a Number of Men in Years Past for our Safeguard and Defence in this Time of War. And altho' we might from thence Infer your Good Disposition to Help us for the future yet in order to your being more fully Informed of our Circumstances we would Humbly offer to the Consideration of this Honorable Court some of the Difficulties and Dangers we find our selves Exposed to in this Time of War.

Our Settlements are Remote one from another in a Mountainous and Broken Country our Fields are Generally Encompassed about with Trees and Bushes which Continually Exposes us to the Danger of being Surprized by the Enemy while about our Daily Labour our Common Roads and High ways are no Less Dangerous to Pass; We Live open to a Wide Wilderness which surrounds us on all sides by which means the Enemy may come undiscovered very near our Garrisons which we have hardly men enough to Defend our Number being now very Small many having already Removed out of the Town and others Seem so much Discouraged that we fear our Numbers will be much Less in the Ensuing Summer than they are at present which has a Tendency to make our Burden Still the Heavier which is already almost unsupportable we have Never Desired Needlessly to be a Burden to the Government Neither

have we Ever before in this manner apply'd for Relief but being now convinced more than Ever of the Danger we are Likely to be Exposed to we cannot but think it Needfull for us to be Imfortunate with Your Excellency and Honours to grant us Such Large assistance as our Necessitous Circumstances may Require without which we fear we shall be obliged to Retreat for the Safety of our Selves and Families tho' it must be with the Greatest Regret that we Leave our Settlements which we have Cultivated with much Toil and Labour.

May it Pleas your Excellency and Honours to take the Premises into your Wise Consideration and if it be Consistent with your Pleasure and for the Benefit of the Province in General as well as your Petitioners in Particular to Keep this Town we Humbly Pray that there may be Speedy Provision made for the Support of Forty or Fifty Men to be sent up Early in the Spring and Kept Here for the Safeguard and Defence of the Inhabitants Here and that Such Stores as may be needful for them may be conveyed up by sledging the Knowledge of which as it would be Likely to Prevent some from Removing out of Town So it would be a means to Encourage and strengthen us all who are very Sensible that we cannot Long Support our Selves Here without Such assistance from the Government as Shall Enable us to Go about our Labour and Business in some Degree of Safety which we Hope you will Freely Provide for and your Petitioners Shall as in Duty Bound Ever Pray &c.

Nottingham Jan^r 21st 1747

ISRAEL BARTLETT
ROBERT HARVEY

} Selectmen of Nottingham
in Behalf and by order
of the Town

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Nottingham Dec^r y^e 8th 1747 Voted that the Select men Draw up a Petition to be Preferred to the General Court to Pray that there may be Suitable Provision made for our Relief under the Difficulties of the war and that Joshua Peirce Esq^r be Impowered and he is hereby Desired to carry in s^d Petition and Do what may be need full to obtain s^d Relief

Israel Bartlett Toun clerk

A true Coppy pr.

At a Meeting of y^e Freeholders & Inhabitatione of Nottingham Held March y^e 27th 1750

Voted that y^e South westerly Corner of Nottingham be set off as a Parish & Bounded as followeth Beginning at a Cartain tree between the fifth & Sixth Range No. 21 being at y^e Lower end of said Range thence Running South West to Chester line thence Running on said Chester west North West to a Pitch pine tree being y^e Southwesterly corner of said Nottingham thence Running North East & by North on y^e head of said Nottingham to the Line between the 5th & 6th Range thence Running East South East on said line to y^e Bounds first mentioned & voted to y^e In-

habittance of said land all Privileges belonging to a Parish as much as in us Lyes. The above vote past in y^e affirmative

March y^e 29th 1750. a Coppy Exam^d

Rob^t Harvey town Clerk

At a Meeting of y^e freeholders & Inhabittance of Nottingham held March y^e 26th 1751

Voted that their be y^e Sum of one Hundred pound old Tenor Raised on y^e Town Including all Ratable Poles & Estats within y^e Bounds of y^e original Grant of y^e Towne Exclusive of the church men to be Laid out for y^e Support of a Minister or Ministers of y^e Gospel to be agreed with by a Committee to be chosen at this Meeting to Preach in said town & y^e Money to be Raised as afores^d on those Living in that part of y^e town called y^e South west Parish to be Expended in Supporting a Minister to Preach amongst them in Such Place as they shall agree upon; and y^e money to be Raised on y^e Rest of y^e Town to be Expended in Supporting a Minister to preach at or near y^e Block House yet this vote is not to be construed or Intended to Extend Either to Revoke or alter y^e validity or Insufficiency of the title or Grant of those who Inhabit that Part of y^e town which they apprehend to be set off a Sperate Parish but that Matter to Remain in all other Respects as if this vote had never been Past.

The above Vote past in y^e affirmative

March y^e 30th 1751. A Coppy Exam^d

Rob^t Harvey town Clerk

At a Meeting of y^e freeholders & Inhabitants of Notting^m held March y^e 31st 1752

Voted that Whatsoever shall be Raised on those who Inhabit that Part of y^e Town Called South west Parish for y^e Charge of y^e Meeting house be Refunded or paid bcke to that People at Such time as they shall Build a Meeting house there, to be Raised on y^e other Part of the Town & paid them towards their meeting house with Reasonable Interest

A Coppy

Att^r Rob^t Harvey town Clarke

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
New Hamp^{sh} } Governor and Commander in chief in and
over His Majestys Province of New Hamp^r

To the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council and House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly convened, July 25th 1754

Humbly Shews Thomas Simpson in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Nottingham in said Province and agent for the said Inhabitants That by the fires in the woods the last Spring great damage was done to Most of the Inhabitants afores^d, whereby they are much Impoverished That in consequence of the *torch* of war with the Indians the Spring past and this Summer they have been much impeded in their Business, That they apprehend they are overdone in the Proportion to the Province Tax—Wherefore your Petitioner in be-

half of s^d Inhabitants Pray that they may be eased this year of the Province Tax or such part thereof as may be tho't Just and reasonable and your Excellency and Honours will Indulge your Petitioners with an oppertunity to enforce this Petition and assign the Reasons for the granting the Prayer thereof and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall every Pray.

THOMAS SIMPSON

July 25th 1754

Prov. N. Hamp^{re} In Council July 25th 1754
read & ordered to be sent Down to the Hon^{ble} the Gen^l Assembly
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Province of } To his Excelency Bening Wentworth Esqr.
New Hamp^{re} } Governour in chief in & over the Province
aforesaid (in Counsel)

The Petition of the Inhabitance and freeholders of the Sow west part of Nottingham Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners wear set of by a vote of the Town of Nottingham as a Parish in the year 1750 at their annual meeting and were Bounded as followeth Viz: Begining at a Certain tree between the fifth and sixth Ranges in the third Division of Lotts in s^d Towne No. 21 at the Lower end of said Ranges then Runing S. West to Chester Line being about five Miles, thence Runing on s^d Chester Line West North West to a Pitch Pine tree which is the South westerly corner of Nottingham, thence Runing north East and by north on the head of Nottingham about five miles to the line between the 5th & 6th Range then running East South East on s^d Line to the Bounds first mentioned. The aforesaid Tract of Land being about six Miles square was voted of as a Parish to the inhabitance & freeholders of said Land with all Priviledges belonging to a Parish as much as in them Lyes.

And in March 1751 Their was money Rais'd on all the inhebetence of Nottingham Except the Church men and it was then Voted that what was paid by those men that Lived in the South West Parish (so call'd) should be expended in supporting a Minister to Preach the Gospel among them

And in March 1752 at the annual meeting there was a Large sum of Money Rais'd and your Petitioners were to have the money that was paid by your Petitioners to be expended among us; And money hath ben raised yearly ever since and we have Receiv'd nothing for our Money Except one Days Preaching and about three weekes schooling for six years, for your Petitioners not being incorporated into a Parish only by the Votes of the Town were not able to chuse any Parish officers to Re-

ceive the money and to lay it out altho' the Town are willing we should have it as soon as we are incorporated and as preaching the Gospel and teaching the children are matters of Great importance to all his Majesties Good Subjects and for many other Reasons which you in your wisdom are sensible of that will forward the Settling and Promote Good order in a Place,

We your Petitioners Earnestly Pray you would be pleas^d to incorporate us and Grant us Parrish Priviledges.

Nottingham Feb^{ry} 23^d 1756

Jonathan Longfellow
Levi Dearborn
Nathaniel Batchelder
Nathaniel Batchelder Junr.
Thomas Brown
Ephraim Pettengill
Isaac Mason
Daniel Kelley
Ruben Masteen
Theophilus Griffin
Green Longfellow
Eliphalet Griffin
Isaac Shepard

John Batchelder
Nathan Tilton
David Tilton
Timothy Sanborn
Coffin Sanborn
Samuel Page
Nath^l Healey Jun.
Daniel Marston
Jeremiah Dearborn
Steven Batchelder
Benjⁿ Batchelder
Abraham Drake

Petition June 23rd 1765 for a separate Parish.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governour Commander & Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hampshire And Vice Admiral of the same, The Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives for s^t Province Convened.

The humble petition of us the Subscribers being Freeholders and Inhabitants of the South West Parish in Nottingham (so call'd) Humbly *shews*. That whereas your petitioners Lives many of them to the Distance of eight and Some ten miles from the meeting house which makes it very Difficult for us or our families to attend the public worship of God att that place and as your petitioners apprehend their Number is equal or above many Parishes that have been sett off in this province We therefore humbly pray that you would please to sett us off a distinct Parish invested with all the privileges of other Parishes within this Province according to the following bounderies (which bounderies is agreeable to A Vote of the town of Nottingham Held att the Meeting House in s^t Nottingham on the third thursday of april 1765) viz beginning att the bounds between the 9th & 10th Lotts in the first Range of the 3^d Division And to Extend to the head Line of Nottingham Joining to Allenstown (so call'd) then to begin att the bounds

between the 21st & 22^d Lotts in the Second Range and to Extend to the s^t head Line and Likewise including the whole of the 3^d 4th 5th & sixth Ranges of the s^t 3^d Division with all the Lands on the westerly side of pleasant pond including the whole of the farms in the 7th & 8th Range that Joins to the road that Leads from Nottingham Meeting House to Epsom Line. Also the whole of the Hundred Acre Lotts in Bow street on the Southwesterly side including Josiah Sawyers Lott being the original Lott of Archibald Macfadvis from thence to the head of s^t Bow Street. Your Petitioners therefore Humbly prays that in your Great Wisdom and Goodness you would please to take this our prayer under your wise consideration and act on it as you may think proper and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c.

Notingham June y^e 17th 1765

Sam^l Leavitt
Obadiah Marston
Tho^s Simpson
Eliphelet Griffee
Abraham True
Isaac Shepard
Samuel Tilton
Peter Batchelder
Robert Cram
Patten Simpson
Nathaniel Batchelder Jun.
Thomas Brown
John Batchelder
Moses Thomson
Sam^l Hoyt
Peter Leavitt
Ephraim Pettengill
Eliphelet Marston
The^o Griffin
Reuben Marston
Benjamin Cotton
Sam^l Leavit Jun.
Samuel Marston
Joshua Stevens
Jeremiah Sanborn
Joseph Marston
Reuben Brown
Nathan Grifen
Reuben Marston
Theophilus Griffin Jun.
Samuel Winslow
Nathanael Meloon
Benjamin Page
Daniel Page
Samuel Perkins
Josiah Chase
Moses Chase
John Gill
Nemiah Cram

Joseph Graves
Jedediah Prescott
David Batchelder
Josiah Prescott
Samuel Pulsifer
Josiah Sanborn
Daniel West
Benjamin Hilyard
Benjamin Beachelder
Israel Clifford
John Robinson
Joseph Roberts
Joshua Young
Jeremiah Glidden
Joseph Judkins
Richard Gliden
Andrew Glidden
John Young
Jonathan Glidden
Jonathan Hill
Daniel Lad
Joseph Lad
Nathaniel Smith
Benjamin Folsom
Moses Thirston
Jeremiah Folsom
Moses Clough
Josiah Smith
Samuel Elkins
Jude Allen
John Cram
Samuell Kelley
Wadleigh Cram
Thomas Robie
William Sanborn
Joseph Mason
John Mason
Jeremiah Eastman
Owen Runnells

Increase Batchelder
Benjamin Batchelder
Nathan Batchelder

Josiah Sawyer
Daniel Marston

In Council June 28th 1765

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives June 28, 1765
New Hampshire }

This Petition being Read

Voted That they be heard thereon the second Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of Sep^r Next That they give notice of the Substance of the Petition in the Public News Papers of the Government three Weeks successively & that any Person or Persons may appear against the Prayer thereof that are so Disposed

H. Sherburne Spk^r

In Council Eodem Die

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Sec^y

Province of }
New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Nov^r 22^d 1765.

The Petitioners being heard on the within Petition and no Person appearing to make objection and the Prayer of said Petition appearing to be reasonable

Voted That the Prayer of said Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Nov. 22^d 1765

The above Vote read & concurred

T. Atkinson Jun Sec.

Att a Legal meeting of the freeholders and Inhabitants of Nottingham held att the meeting house in said Nottingham on the third thursday of April 1765,

Voted that the southwesterly Corner of Nottingham (So called) be sett of as a Distinct Parish according to the following boundaries viz. to begin att the bounds between the ninth and tenth Lotts in the first Range and to Extend to the head line in s^d Nottingham then to begin att the bounds between the 21st and 22^d Lotts in the Second Range and to Extend to the s^d head line in Nottingham and likewise to include the whole of the 3^d 4th 5th & 6th Ranges of the third Division (so called) in s^d Nottingham with the Lands and settlers on the westerly side of Pleasant Pond so far as the road extends to Epsom line including all the farms and settlers on s^d Epsom Road (so call^d) to the head Line of Nottingham as Likewise the whole of the Hundred acre Lotts in Bow Street on the Southwesterly side of s^d Street including Josiah Sawyer's Lott being the original Lott of Archibald Macfadrax to the head of s^d Bow street

A true Copy Attest

Benjamin Shepard Town Clerk

Nottingham Petition for Liberty to Elect an Assemblyman

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hampshire } Governor in Chief in and over his Majes-
 Rockingham ss. } ties Said Province of New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Nottingham in said County of Rockingham Shews that said Nottingham is an ancient Settled Town and Does at Present Consist of above three Hundred & Fifty Families. For a Long Time Past the Inhabitants thereof have been Constantly Taxed toward the Support and Maintenance of the Government of this His Majesty's Province and have always freely and cheerfully Paid the same tho they have Never Enjoy'd the Inestimable Darling Privilege and Liberty of Being Represented in the House of Commons here which other Towns and Parishes Less Opulent and Not so Numerous or ancient have been Indulg'd with; the Liberty of sending Representatives. Your Petitioners would humbly Submit their Case to your Excellencys Wise Mature Consideration, Whether they are not Intitled to the Privileges and Immunities of the British Constitution Equally with Every other Subject thereof Whether the Lives Liberties and Propertys of your Petitioners under their Present Circumstances may not be taken from them without their Consent to the Law by which they may be Judged.

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Excellency Would authorize and Impower them for the future to send a Representative to the General Assembly of said Province That your Petitioners may no Longer Be Virtually But Really Represented By a Person of their own Electing and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

Nottingham April 18th 1774

John McCrillis
 James Kelse
 William McCrillis
 John Banfill
 John Gile
 Enoch Page
 Rice Rowell
 Patton Simpson
 Robert Morrison
 Jacob Frost
 Joseph Morrill
 Abednego Leathers
 John Harvey
 Nathaniel Avery
 Zebulon King
 John Methes
 Clement Jackson Jun.
 Nathl Batchelder
 Nath Batchelder
 Eben Tilton

Joel Cram
 his
 Sam X Leavitt
 m
 Jethomy? Gowin
 Ephraim Cram
 Stephen Chas
 Jonathan McClure
 John Trusten
 Jos Cilley Jr.
 Thos Bartlett
 Henry Dearborn
 John Randle
 John Morrill
 Benjamin Watson
 Josiah Watson
 Will Clark
 Jonathan Randel
 Moses Chase
 Jos Mills

Jno Mills
 Cutten Cilley
 Daniel Leathers
 Nathaniel Gove
 Samuel Gove
 Peter Leavitt
 Thos Leavitt
 Jona Leavitt
 Benjamin French
 James Page
 Daniel Page
 Samuel Winslow
 Josiah Prescott
 John Godfree
 Jeremh Easman
 Samuel McCluer
 Joseph Cilley
 Benjamin Butler
 Saml Huntoon
 Thos Foss
 Joseph White
 John Pills ?
 Jona Willey
 John Morrill
 Asa Guile
 Nathl Randa^l

John Kinston
 Joshua Stevens
 Jonathan Davis
 Thomas Hines
 Josiah Bartlett
 Jonathan Huckins
 Saml Leavitt
 Thomas Berry
 Simon Marston
 Daniel Moor
 Robey Marston
 Phineas Tilton
 Jacob Doe
 Thomas Rand
 Saml Cate
 Joseph Gorman
 Jona Gove
 Noah Barker
 Jos Nelly
 John Harvey Jun.
 Thos Frost ?
 Jona Rolings
 John Simpson
 Josiah Presket Jr.
 William Simpson
 John Sheperd.

To the Hon^{ble} Peter Gilman Esq^r

We the Subscribers Proprietors, or heirs & descendants of the Original Grantees of the Township of Nottingham East (formerly including the Parishes of Deerfield & Northwood) now In the County of Rockingham (State of New Hampshire) *And also of Those* who became denominated Proprietors, by their purchasing whole & Entire Rights throughout, of the said Grantees in their place & stead, Performing the Conditions of the Grant on the first planting & settling of the Premises, who in their Day & Time (there being Scarce any of either Grantee or Such Proper Proprietor now Surviving) not duly divided the whole of the said Township but effectually rectified, certain Mistakes in the first Settlers Sitting down, with respect to the Home Lotts adjusted, determined & Fixed that & all other Matters and Things Relative to the Propriety *Here mentioned to Shew* the Importance of Their records & Plans. besides, as the said Township was a Grant to a number of Persons, they never had any separate Instrument in hand Severally of any such Grant. Their whole dependence as to the Original Title, being contained in Said Records & Plans. Therefore that due (care) be Taken thereof, and Vexatious Law Suits prevented

Whenever you shall see Cause to Resign as Clerk, your special care of the same we hereby manifest our Freedom in joining with you in address, Humbly Recommending the said Records & Plans to the Patronage of the Hon^{ble} the General Assembly, to be by Them deposited with the Records of the said County of Rockingham, there to remain (as compleated) *Sacred & Inviolable*

Hunking Wentworth for Col Mark Hunking Esq^r Deceased r'g^{ts} ?

John Sherburne as Exec^r to the will of my Hon^d father Henry Sherburne Esq^r Deceas'd and for the original Right of Thomas Peirce Esq^r Dec'd.

Geo Jaffrey adm^r to Estate of Geo Jaffrey Esqr. deceased.

Sam^l Penhallow for Sam^l Penhallow Esqr. Dec^d &

Benjamin Gambling Esqr. Deceased thirteen rights

Ben^{ja} Dolbeare—For 3 Rights viz. David Dolbeare, Jno. Calfe, Peter Gibbins

Executor Shem Drowne—for 7 Rights, viz: Eben^r Burges, Jno. Steel, Jno. Pratt Jos Powell Jno. Newton Thomas Drowne, Clem^t Renough

Tim^o Newell—for Jn^o Goodman & Eben^r Messinger two rights

Thos^s Parker—for Sam^l Kendalls one right

Sam Whitwell Jun^r—for his Grandfather Sam^l Whitwell dec^d one right

Eliz Richards—for her father Edw^d Richards dec^d one right

Job Bradford—for W^m Creese one right

Samuel Green

Ezekiel Walker for my father Eq. Er. Walker Dec^d one right.

Thomas Drowne, as admin^r on the Estate of Francis Brinley Esq^r. dec^d for one Right viz Richard Heards

Jam^s Maltman for John Granger Dec^d one right. (s^d Granger's son in law)

Nathaniel Martain for my Father Nath^l Martain Deceas'd one Right.

Eliza North For my fathers one right

James Pitson dec^d for W^m Pitson's one Right

Sarah Creese, Margaret Creese For their Father M^r Thomas Creese one right

Jonathan Warner for Arch^d McPhedris Esqr. Dec^d

John Penhallow for Rich^d Wibird Esq^r Dec^d one right.

— Russell for the right of his father E. Russell Esq^r Deceased

— Odiorne in behalf of her Late husband Jotham Odiorne Esq^r Dec^d his Right.

Jn^o Jackson for the Right of Robert Pike.

Joseph Walton One of the heirs of Shadrach Walton Esqr. Dec^d For his Right.

William Langdon Ex^r to the will of W^m Langdon Deceased in his Right.

Nath^l Peirce heir to my honored uncle Joshua Peirce for his right.

Hannah Hughes Daughter and only surviving heir of Clement Hughes Dec^d for his Right.

Thomas Westbrook Waldron For the Rights of Thomas Westbrook Esqr. & Richard Waldron Jun.

Mich^l Wentworth for Benning Wentworth Esq^r dec^d for his Right.

Benja Dearborn for Nath^l Sargent Esq^r Dec^d for his Right

Jonathan Warner as Executor to the Estate of Mary Pray Dec^d Heir of Tho^s Phipps Esq^r Dec^d

Daniel Rindge

Daniel Rogers for the Right of Benning Wentworth Esq^r

Exeter June 12th 1783

This may Certify that the within & foregoing is the address Referred to In my Petition to the General Assembly of the state of New Hampshire bearing this date

Peter Gilman.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

After the foregoing papers relating to Nottingham were prepared for the press, the editor received the following note, through Hon. B. F. Prescott, viz.:

"Deerfield Center, Nov. 25, 1875.

Friend Prescott:

I have in my possession, a Plan of Nottingham, by John Brown—1732, showing on it (where legible) the names of the then owners of each lot of land, the number of each lot, and the number of acres in each lot.

I think that there can be no doubt of its authenticity or of its correctness.

On the back is a Plan which I cannot make out. Much information can be obtained from it. This Plan was drawn while Nottingham included Deerfield, Northwood and a part of Raymond. Perhaps it would not be amiss to inform Dr. Bouton.

Yours, &c.,

G. H. STEVENS."

Reference to this Plan may be important to persons in investigating titles to land, or in completing a history of Nottingham, and of towns laid off from it. The editor would have been happy to have secured a copy for an insertion in this volume. Ed.

ORFORD.

[Orford was granted 25 September, 1761, to Jonathan Moulton and others. It was settled in June, 1765, and incorporated by charter when granted. Ed.]

A List of the Inhabitants and others In the Township of Orford with their Families & ages.

1	Israel Morey Esqr.		Abel Sawyer & Wife	19
	Wife		John "	16
	Israel Morey	11 years	Ruby Richardson an	
	Samuel "	9	hired girl	16
	Moulton "	6		
	Martha "	4	5 Benja Baldwin & wife	
	Darius an Infant	$\frac{1}{2}$		
2	John Man & Wife		6 Benja Baldwin jun & Wife	
	Jno "	6	Andrew Peters	12
	Solomon "	3	Lydia "	9
	Jerrad "	1	Betty "	7
			Benja "	4
			Theophilus "	2
3	William Murston & wife		7 Ebenezer Baldwin & wife	
	Huldah "	17	Abigail "	7
	William "	19	Raynah "	5
	Jno "	15	Ebenezer "	3
	Peter "	11	Patty an Infant	$\frac{1}{2}$
	Deborah "	9	& an hir'd woman	
	Betty "	7		
	Olive "	3	8 Ichabod Palmer & Wife	
	Josiah an Infant	$\frac{1}{2}$	& 1 Son	
4	Thomas Sawyer & Wife		9 Jno Woodward & Wife	
	Ichabod "	21		

Theodore Woodward	11	17 Samuel Phelps & Wife	
Phebe "	3	Oranda "	6
Uriah "	5	Samuel "	5
Son "	2	Bridget "	1
		Lydia an Infant	
10 Noah Dewey & Wife		18 Jno Wood & Wife	
11 Noah Dewey Junr & wife		Reuby "	16
Samuel "	13	Comfort "	14
Olive "	10		
Elias "	8	19 Joel Phelps & Wife	
Ezra "	6		
Charles "	4	20 Edward Sawyer & Wife	
Alexander "	2		
Darius an Infant		12 Experience Cross & Wife	
12 James Calkins & Wife		Hitty "	11
Rhoda "	14	Bethuel "	6
Samuel "	8	Oliver "	1
Fredrick "	6		
Cyrus "	4	22 Shubel Cross & Wife	
Enos "	1½	Joseph "	2
		Lydia an Infant	
13 Constant Bliss & wife		23 Linsford Morey & Wife	
14 Eldad Post & Wife		24 Jonathan Derby & Wife	
Eldad "	13	Jona " aged	18
Aaron "	11	Ezra " "	14
Daniel "	6	Levinah " "	12
Russell "	4	Lydia " "	9
Hannah "	15	Lucy " "	6
Sibbel "	2	Elizabeth & Apollos	
Mary an Infant		(Twins)	4
		Samuel	1½
15 Daniel Tillotson & Wife		25 Jeremiah Post & wife	
Child "	1		
Hir'd child	9	26 Jonathon Sawyer & wife	
16 Clement Emery & Wife			

Single Men

Reverend Mr. Obadiah Noble	1	Daniel Butterfield Do.	7
Abraham Palmer	2	Jno Crosby for Jno Weeks	8
Jacob Marston	3	Giles Tiffany—a Transient man	9
Gillam Bliss (a Transient man)	4	Nathan Dewey	10
George Wilson Do.	5	Jno. Morey—in all	11
John Wright Do.	6		

*Sundry persons to whom Coll. Moulton hath wrote to Settle
on the following Rights.*

E. Cross on the Right of	Samuel Blake
N. Dewey on " "	" Philip Towle
S. Morey " "	" Jn ^o Moulton 3 ^d
I Wood " "	" Josiah Moulton Jun ^r
I. Morey " "	" James Brown

1772

*Mem^o of the Settlement & Improvement of Land in the
Township of Orford.*

Viz. orig: Prop^r Names—by whom settled & in what manner improved

Jonathan Moulton Esq ^r —John Wood has Settled for s ^d Right	
John Moulton 3 ^d —Constant Bliss settled on the back lot, 6 acres fell	
John Nelson —Daniel Clark improving do. } & Col Moulton making	
Thomas Reed—Levi Dam do do. }	Improvements on the River Lots

James Brown—John Morey do do

John Moulton Esq^r—Moses Norton do do

John Wason—W^m Tarlton do do.

Jerem^m Marston—Improvements making by his Son 3 or 4 Acres fell on the River Lot, about 10 acres more on the back Lot 6 of which is sowed with wheat.

Sam^l Blake—Experience Cross settled on the back Lot

Joseph Palmer—Ebenezer Bracket improving on the back Lot

Benning Wentworth—

Ward Cotton—Sam^l Haines Jun^r improving on do.

The^r Atkinson Esqr.—Linsford Morey do. do

Philip Towle—Nathan Dewy settled on the back Land

Jerem^m; Sanborn—Benj^a Kate improving on the back Land

Josiah Dearborn—

Jon^a Moulton Jun^r—Theodore Dam do. do.

Jon^a Philbrick—Ichabod Palmer Settled on River Lot ab^t 5 acres under good Improvement

Jerem^m Dow—Ichabod Palmer Jun^r on do. abt. 5 acres under good Improvement.

Walter Neal—Jacob Marston Settled on back Lot.

Clem^t March—

Sam^l Perkins—Richard Haines improving on do.

Sam^l Wentworth Esqr.—Joel Phelps settled on River Lot

Christ^m Tappan Esqr.

Witham Wallace

Josiah Lane

Wiseman Clagget Esqr

Byfield Lloyd Esqr

Samuel Dow

Cotton Ward

Israel Morey Esqr. settled 3 mills near 100 acres of Land under good improvement.

Joshua Towle—Dan^l Tillotson Esq^r improv'd on River Lot ab^t 10 acres under good Improvement.

W^m Lane—Sam^l Phelps settled do. ab^t 10 acres under good Improvement.

Worthing^m Moulton—Improvements on River Lot by Israel Morey Esqr. ab^t 10 acres under good improvement

W^m Marston—Settled by himself

Benj^a Staniford Randall) John Mann settled abt. 20 acres under good
Nath^l Showers) Improvements

Edmund Mason—James Calkins d^r ab^t 14 do. do. do

Nicholas White—Benj^a Baldwin Jun^r do. 5 do. do

Meshech Weare Esqr.—Dan^l Mason settled do.

Theo. Atkinson Junr. Esqr.—Daniel Tillotson Junr. do.

Mark H. Wentworth Esqr.—Benj^a Baldwin do. (Potash) & 20 acres
under good Improvement.

Ephraim Marston }
Edward Moulton } Thomas Sawyer Settled, about 80 acres under good
Thornton Wason } Improvement.
Thomas Nudd }

Jon^a Towle—Eben^r Baldwin Settled, ab^t 17 acres under good Improve-
ment.

John Weeks Jun^r—John Crosby improving

Jacob Brown—Thom^s Sawyer Junr. ab^t 16 acres under good Improve-
ment.

Joshua Lane Jun^r }
W^m Smith } Jeremiah Post Settled, 40 or 50 acres under good
Jo^a Moulton 3^d } Improvement

Jon^a Sanborn Jun^r }
Abrah^m P. Towle } Eldad Post settled, about 20 acres under good Im-
John Moulton Jun^r } provement

Simon Marston } Improvements making by Col. Moulton, about 33
Sam^l Garland } acres fell & about 13 of which is well cleared
Jon^a Marston 4th }

Jon^a Leavitt—Jon^a Darbee Settled

Jon^a Marston Jun^r } Capt. Dewey Settled, 8 acres under Improvement
George March } thereabouts

Benjamin Batchelder—Noah Dewey settled, ab^t 6 acres under do.

Joseph Philbrick—Clem^r Emery do. ab^t 6 do. do.

Nathan Moulton Jun^r } Improvements made for Col. Moulton.
Philip Hooker }

Names of all the Men, Women and Children in Orford,

1772.

Married Mens Names

Capt Linsford Morey
Israel Morey
Ichabod Palmer
John Woodward
Constant Bliss
Shubel Cross
Experience Cross
Joel Phelps
John Wood
Jonathan Sawyer
Ebenezar Bracket
Benjamin Cate
Nathan Dewy
William Marston
Jonathan Darby
Thomas Sawyer

Married Womens Names

Mary Morey
Martha Morey
Tabitha Palmer
Cintha Woodward
Elizabeth Bliss
Hipsebath Cross
Mehitabl Cross
Mary Phelps
Hannah Wood
Tabitha Sawyer

Mary Marston
Abigail Darby
Hipsebath Sawyer

John Man
Daniel Tillotson
Noah Dewey
Capt Noah Dewy
Clemment Emery
Jeremiah Post
Edward Sawyer
Benjamin Baldwin
Benjamin Baldwin Jun
Ebenezer Baldwin
Eldad Post
Samuel Phelps
James Calking

Lydia Man
Mary Tillotson
Abigail Dewey
Abigail Dewey
Mary Emery
Anna Post
Hannah Sawyer
Elizabeth Baldwin
Lydia Baldwin
Abigail Baldwin
Hannah Post
Lydia Phelps
Marsa Calking

Young Mens Names

Rev'd. Obadiah Noble
Gillom Bliss
Jacob Marston
John Wright
William Marston
Abraham Palmer
Richard Haynes
William Tolton
John Crosbie
Samuel Haynes
Ichabod Sawyer
Abel Sawyer 17½
Jonathan Darby
John Morey
Daniel Butterfield
George Wilson
Giles Tiffeny

Young Womens Names

Ruby Coats
Comfort Coats
Hulda Marston
Ruby Richerson
Rhoda Calkings
Hannah Post
Abigail Backster

Names and ages of the children in Orford.

<i>Male children & age.</i>		<i>Female children & age</i>	
	yrs. mos.		yrs.
Ichabod Palmer	16	Mehitabel Cross	12
Oliver Cross	5	Martha Morey	4
Israel Morey	12	Pheby Woodward	8
Samuel Morey	10	Enrana Woodward	5½
Moulton Morey	7	Lavina Darby	12
Darius Linsford Morey	5	Lucy Darby	5
Theodorus Woodward	11 8	Elizabeth Darby	3
John Woodward	1 8	Mary Tillotson	1½
John Marston	15 4	Olive Dewey	10
Peter Marston	11 4	Lydia Baldwin	9
Josiah Marston	9	Elizabeth Baldwin	8
John Sawyer	16	Mary Marston	9
Simeon Darby	16	Deborah Marston	9
Ezra Darby	14	Elizabeth Marston	7
Apollas Darby	3	Olle Marston	3
Lemuel Darby	1 6	Orenda Phelps	7
John Man	5 8	Bridet Phelps	2
Solomon Man	3 8	Lydia Phelps	4½
Jerod Man	1 3	Abigail Baldwin	6
Lemuel Dewey	13	Mary Post	5

Elias Dewey	8	Eurana Baldwin	4
Ezra Dewey	6	Martha Baldwin	1
Noah Dewey	0 1	Asinath Tillotson	12
Elaxander Dewey	2		
Benjamin Baldwin	5		
Theophilus Baldwin	3		
Samuel Phelps Jun.	5		
Eldad Post	13		
Aaron Post	11		
Daniel Post	6		
Russel Post	4		
Ebenezer Baldwin	2		
Samuel Calkings	9		
Fredrick Calkings	7		
Cyrus Calkings	5		
Enos Calkings	2		
Joseph Cross	3		
Andrew Peters	14		

NOTE.—Readers will notice some discrepancy in the lists of names above. Ed.

Petition of William Simpson & others in behalf of the inhabitants of Orford.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hampshr } Captain General, & Governor &c. in and
 over the Province aforesaid and to the
 hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in
 general Assembly conven'd on Tuesday the fifth Day of
 Jan. A. D. 1773.

The Petition of William Simpson, John Man and James Calkin, Inhabitants of the Town of Orford humbly *sheweth*, that the Major Part of the Inhabitants of said Orford, by their Agents Alexander Phelps and Israel Mowry prefer'd a Petition to the General Assembly, on the twelfth Day of December A.D. 1771 Praying that his Excellency and your honours wou'd enact and order that a Tax of two Pence L Money to be assessed on each and every acre of Land in said Orford indiscriminately as well improved as unimproved Lands (the Public Rights excepted) annually for the next four years, and that they be impowered to levy and collect the same of the owners of said Land to be by the Inhabitants expended Solely for their Ministers Settlement & Salary as they shall become due, And for building a House for divine Service, as in and by said petition will more fully and largely appear. Now the said Simpson, Man and Calkins your Petitioners beg Leave to represent to your Exc^y & Honours, that the major Part of the said Inhabitants of Orford are of the dissenting or Congrega-

tional Profession, that there Ministers called and settled there is of the same Profession; but that your Petitioners are of the Profession of the Church of England, as Established by Law, that they have possessions and Lands in the said Town of Orford, that they claim by natural Right and Liberty, and upon the Principles of Religion an Exemption of having their Lands or Estates taxed for the Maintainance, Support or Charge either in Building or any other Manner, for any Minister other than for the Profession of the Church of England; that it wou'd be illiberal and cruel to tax their Lands & Estates against there Consent, to maintain and support the Ministers of other Professions while they maintain and support their own; that they have taken Measures, and Contributed towards the Expence in Conjunction with some of the Inhabitants of the Neighboring Towns, to procure a Minister of the Church of England to settle among them; that they do not ask nor expect any one of a different profession to aid or assist in his Maintainance or Support in any Manner whatever: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency & Honours, that their Lands & Estates in the Said Town of Orford, and the Lands & Estates of all others in said Town, now of the profession of the Church of England, may be exempted from all Taxes and Impositions, for the Purpose of Maintaining & supporting any Minister, other than of their own Profession, or if your Exc'y & Honours in your Wisdom shall think fit and proper to tax the Lands and Estates of your Petitioners and others, they most earnestly pray that the Monies arising on said Tax may be at their own Discretion, appropriated to the use and Benefit of supporting their own Minister, or for the Purpose of other religious and Charitable Uses. And your petitioners, as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

WILLIAM SIMPSON
JOHN MAN
JAMES CALKINS

Portsmouth Jan^y 8th 1773

In Council Jan^y 8th 1773

Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly
Geo. King D. Sec^y

PELHAM.

[Incorporated 6 July, 1746. ED.]

Province of)
New Hampshire } January y^e 26, 1746

At a Town meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Pelham Regularly Assembled, it was then voted to chuse Capt. Henry Baldwin to apply to the General Assembly of said Province in the behalf of this town in order to Get the Non resident land Taxed lying in this town; to Enable them to support and maintain the Gospel &c.

Feb. y^e 12, 1746 A true Coppy taken from Pelham town Book of Record

Attest Eleazer Whiting town Clerk

Henry Baldwin's petition in behalf of the Town of Pelham.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General Governour & Commander in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled.

The Humble Petition of Henry Baldwin of Pelham in said Province Gentleman Shews That y^e Inhabitants of s^t Pelham are but few in Number & some of them not able to pay any Tax at all and besides other Difficulties which they labour under in their present needy Circumstances y^e War makes their case much more difficult & y^e Support of y^e Ministry and their other Necessary charges more intolerable.

That there are many valuable Tracts of Land owned by non resident Proprietors which Lands are much meliorated by our Improvements & at our Exence and we are verily perswaded that some if not all of s^t non resident Proprietors would willingly be subjected to pay something towards our Help. I would therefore in y^e name & on y^e Behalf of s^t Inhabitants as well as on my own humbly supplicate your Excellency & Honours by an act to Subject said non residents Lands to pay a Tax of one penny & an Half annually pr. acre for five years next ensuing & to impower a Collector or Collectors by us lawfully constituted to collect y^e same or otherwise do what your Excellency & Honours shall think best for us & consistent with Justice.

HENRY BALDWIN

Portsm^o Apr. 2^d 1747.

Prov of New }
Hampshir } In the House of Representatives April 2^d 1747
Voted That the Petitioner be heard on this Petition y^e third Day of

y^e Setting of y^e Gen^l Assembly after y^e first Monday in May next & that y^e Petitioner at his own proper Cost advertize y^e publick two or three weeks successively between this Day & y^e aforesaid third Day of the setting of y^e General Assembly in one of y^e publick News Papers of y^e Matter of y^e Prayer of s^d Petition & this order of Court that so every one may have opportunity to shew cause if any they have why y^e Prayer of s^d Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce Clr.

In Council April 3^d 1747

Read & Concurr'd

Sam Solly Sec protem

Eodem Die

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH

Province of }
New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives 14th May 1747

Voted That in answer to the annex'd all y^e Land of said Pelham residents as well as non-residents be subjected to a Tax of a Penny & an half pr. acre for four years next ensuing & that a Collector or Collectors be inpower'd to collect the same & that y^e Petitioner have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly

D. Peirce Clr

In the House of Representatives 16th May 1747

It is further voted that the Inhabitants of said Pelham make it appear by an account to be rendered annually to y^e Gen^l Assembly that the money has been apply'd for y^e uses mentioned in the annexed Petition on Pain of Refunding the same

D. Peirce Clk.

In Council Eod^m Die

read & Concurr'd

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Eodem Die

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH

Petition of Selectmen of Pelham for power to tax non resident lands.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General Governor in chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England, To the Honourable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives of said Province in General Court assembled at Portsmouth the fourteenth Day of July, 1756.

The Petition of James Wilson John Hamblet & Benjamin Barker Selectmen of the Town of Pelham in the Province aforesaid in behalf of said Town,

Humbly Sheweth That the Inhabitants of said Town labour under many Difficulties by Reason that about one half of the Land in Said Town is owned by Non Resident Proprietors (as your Petitioners Humbly conceive) and the Taxes which

the Selectmen of the Said Town assessed on the lands in said Town at one penny half penny per acre annually in years past hath been applied and used as in and by the act for granting the same was ordered and yet there must be further great Cost and charge before the Meeting House in said Town be finished, and moreover the Inhabitants of said Town (though few in number) are desirous to promote learning among them and to that end be at the Cost to Keep a School.

And further there is a certain River (called Beaver River) Runs through the Body of the said Town which occasions great charge for Building and maintaining five Bridges over said River to accommodate people in passing over the same from all which (and other circumstances) ariseth great Cost and charge upon the Inhabitants of said Town. And the said Non Resident owners of such lands are greatly benefited and may be still by the performance of these things thereby raising the value of such lands.

Your Petitioners therefore (being Desirous to act and do such things as tend to the General Interest of the Town) Humbly supplicate the serious Consideration and favour of your Excellency and your Hon^{rs} Praying that power and authority may be granted to the Said Town to Tax all the Lands of such Non-Residents lying within the said Town at two pence per acre annually for such term as your Excellency & your Hon^{rs} in your wisdom and Goodness shall think fit and Judge meet—all which is humbly presented by

JAMES WILLSON	} Selectmen for Pelham
JOHN HAMBLET	
BENJAMIN BARKER	

In Council July 15, 1756

read & ordered to be Sent Down to the Hon^{ble} House
Theor^e Atkinson Sec^y.

Province of } In the House of Representatives July 15th 1756 This
New Hamp^{re} } Petition being read

Ordered That the Petitioners be heard thereon y^e 2^d Day of the Sitting of the General Assembly next after y^e 1st day of Sep^r next Ensuing, & y^e in the meantime the petitioner at his own Cost & charge Cause this order of Court with the Substance of s^d petition to be advertized in some publick print for three weeks successively.

Andrew Clarkson, Cl^k

In Council Eodem Die

read & concurred

Theor^e Atkinson Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec^r 22^d 1756 This
New Hamp^{re} } Petition being read, & it appearing that the above order
of Court had been Conformed to and no person appearing against the Petition the prayer of which appears reasonable Therefore

Voted That the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have

Liberty to bring in a Bill according subjecting the s^d Lands to the said Tax for five years

Andrew Clarkson Clk.

In Council December 23^d 1756

read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

PEELING.

[Peeling was first granted Sept. 23, 1763, to Eli Demeritt; settlements were begun about 1773. Ed.]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire

The Petition of Nathaniel Cushman of Lebanon in Connecticut most Humbly sheweth

That he hath a Number of Sons disposed to remove into the s^d Province, & become Settlers on the New & Uncultivated Lands within the same; & that a Number of his Friends are of the same disposition—in the whole A Number fully Sufficient to settle an entire Township.

Your Excellency's humble Petitioner therefore Prays your Excellency, to Grant to him & them A Certain Tounship of Land, within s^d Province, called & known by the Name of *Peeling*, on such Terms, subject to such Settling *Duties* & endowed with such Town Priviledges as the other Towns in s^d Province have generally & usually been Granted upon & Endowed with—and your Excellency's humble Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

NATHANIEL CUSHMAN

Lebanon 17th June A.D. 1771.

Memorial of Nath^l Cushman and others for a regrant of the Town of Peeling.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor of the Province of New Hampshire in New England in America.

The Memorial of Nath^l Cushman & others Subscribers, Humbly Sheweth, That we are desirous of Settling a Township of Land, within the Province of New Hampshire.

That we understand that a certain Town formerly Granted by the Name of *Peeling*, is now Vacant & Ungranted & that

your Excellency is willing to Grant that Town to People who will settle the Same.—Whereupon We humbly Move your Excellency to Grant the same to us in such Proportions as we subscribe for, & by the Name of Fairfield, subject to Such Duties & Penalties, & Endowed with such Priveledges, as your Excellency has been accustomed to Grant other Towns, within s^d Province. And your Excellency's memorialists as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Dated at Lebanon this 24th day of November, A.D. 1771 & in the 12th year of his majesty's Reign

Henchman Bennet	1 Right	Rowland Swift	1
Pollecarpus Cushman	1 do	Benja Lyman	1
Artemus Cushman	1 do	Jedediah Strong	1
Wm Cushman	1 do	Jedediah Strong Jun.	1
Nathl Hatch	1 do	Ebr Garey	1
Jas Lassell	1 do	Asahel Clark Jun	1
John Crocker	1 do	Allerton Cushman Jun	1
Joshua Elderkin	1 do	Ambrose Cushman	1
Joshua Booth Elderkin	1 do	Samuel Clark	1
Oliver Barbur	1 do	Simon Clark	1
Aaron Barbur	1	Consider Cushman	1
Obadiah Barbur	1	Joab Cushman	1
Abner Flint	1	Solomon Williams	1
John Crocker Junr	1	Alexander Phelps	1
Isaac Cushman	1	Neziah Bliss	1
Nathaniel Cushman Jun.	1	Jehiel Rose	1
Caleb Abell Jur	1	Samuel Clark Jr.	1
Rowland Swift Jur	1	Samuel Clark 3d	1
Silas Swift	1	Samuel Robinson	1
John Strong	1	John Hurd	1
Nathl Cushman	1	Samuel Roberson Jr.	1
William Williams	1	Ebenezer Lech	1
Thos Williams	1	Henery Burt	1
Jona Trumbull Junr	1	Benju Cofrass	1
David Trumbull	1	Elijah Tisdell	1
Jas. Trumbull	1	Jacob Elliot	1
John Trumbull	1	William Sims	1
David Barbur	1	William Sims Jr.	1
Caleb Abel	1	George Sims	1

Jacob Sheaffe Junr
Dr Thompson Esq. of Durham
Willm Torrey
David Boynton
Thos Curtain Cheevers

Supply Clapp
Jacob Tilton Portsmouth
John Sherburne Esqr.
Thomas Shannon of Dover

PEMBROKE.

[This town was originally Suncook, and afterwards Lovewell's Town ; and was granted by Massachusetts to the brave men who belonged to the company of Capt. John Lovewell, and to the heirs of those who fell in the memorable engagement at Pequawket. The first Settlement was made about the year 1729, by some of the survivors of that engagement. The Town was chartered by New Hampshire, 1 November, 1759. ED.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governor in chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Convened.

The memorial and Petition of Moses Foster in the Name and Behalf of the Inhabitants of the Plantation of *Suncook* in Said Province,

Humbly Sheweth,

That the Said Plantation has been Settled by His Majestys Subjects about Eleven years and a Gospel minister ordained there Several years.

That the Settlers had an eye at enlarging His Majestys Dominions by going into the Wilderness as well as at their own Interest

That several Thousand Pounds have been spent in clearing and cultivating the Lands there and in erecting Houses, Barns, and Fences ; besides a large additional Sum in Fortifications, lately made by His Excellency the Governours Order.

That the breaking up of the Settlement will not only ruin the Memorialists, but in their Humble Opinion greatly disserve His Majestys Interest by encouraging his Enemies to encroach on His derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and by drawing the War nearer to the capital.

That it was by a long and importunate Intercession of this Province (and not of the Memorialists seeking) that they are put under the immediate care of this Government which they apprehend gives them so much the better Right to its Protection.

That as War is already declared against France and a Rupture with the Indians hourly expected your memorialists unless they have Speedy help will be soon obliged to dissent their Settlements how disserviceable so ever it may be to the Crown, and this Province and ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists most humbly Supplicate your Excellency the Honourable Council and House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Con-

sideration and to grant them such Seasonable Relief as may enable them to maintain His Majesty's Dominions in so ancient and well regulated a Settlement as well as to secure their own Lives and Fortunes against the Ravage and Devastations of a Blood-thirsty and Mercy-less Enemy and your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

MOSES FOSTER

Portsmouth June 20, 1744.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General, Commander & Gov in chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, the Honourable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Court convened.

The Memorial & Petition of Benjamin Holt in the name and behalf of a major part of the inhabitants of the New plantation commonly known by the name of *Suncook* or Lovewells Town in said Province Humbly Sheweth,

That the said plantation has been settled By his Majesties Subjects about fourteen years, and a Gosple Minister upwards of seven, that the settlers had an eye at enlarging his Majesties Dominions by going into the Wilderness, as well as at their own Interest

That many thousand pounds have been spent in clearing & cultivating the Lands there, and many more in erecting Houses Fortifications. Barns and Fences.

That the Buildings are properly formed for defence, and Well situated for a Barrier being on Merrimack River about a Days march below the Confluence of Winnipishoky and Pemissawasset Rivers Both of which are gang ways of the Canadians to the Frontiers of this province and within a Weeks March at farthest from a very Strong Fort Built within these few years by the French at Crown point, which will be a Place of constant Retreat and Resort for the French and Indians in all their Expeditions against the English Settlements.

That the Breaking up of the Settlements will not only Ruin the memorialists, But in their humble opinion greatly disserve his Majesties interest by encouraging his Enemies to Encroach on his derelict Dominions and be also hurtful to the Province by contracting its Borders and drawing the War nearer the capital.

That it was by a long and importunate intercession of this Province (and not of the memorialists seeking) that they are cast under the immediate care of this government which they apprehend gives them so much Better Right to its protection.

That as War has been declared against France for some time and a Rupture with the Indians has been hourly Expected many of the inhabitants of said Plantation by Reason of their being so exposed to Eminent danger from their Enemies have already moved from said Plantation The Season of the year being such as to give the Indians an opportunity of Disturbing the Frontiers.

And your memorialists unless they have sufficient & speedy help will bee soon obliged to Evacuate said Plantation how disserviceable soever it may be to (the) crown Dishonourable to the government Hurtful to the Province and Ruinous to themselves

Wherefore your Memorialists most Humbly supplicate your Excellency the Honourable Council & House of Representatives to take the Premises into your wise and mature Consideration and to grant them thirty or forty soldiers to be posted at said Plantation for scouting Watching, Warding & guarding, with Sufficient Military Stores or otherwise to grant them such aids Both with Respect to men & military stores as your Excellency & Honours shall think sufficient to secure your Memorialists Lives & Fortunes against the Ravage and Hostilities of our said Enemies. And your memorialists as in duty Bound Shall ever pray.

BENJAMIN HOLT.

Portsmouth April the 30th 1745.

Town meeting relating to Rev. A. Whittemore, &c.

Notice is hereby given to all the freeholders and Inhabitation of the Parish of Pembroke to meet at the New Meeting house in s^d parish on Monday the fifteenth Day of November next at ten of the Clock in the forenoon then and there when met,

firstly to Chuse a Moderator to Regelat s^d meeting.

Secondly, to see if the Selectmen shall be Impowered by a Vote to ses and Rais the money according to Law that the Rev^d Mr. Aaron Whittemore Recovered by Judgment of Court of the parish of Pembroke if Not then

thirdly to see if they will vote to Rais any money to review the action and further withstand the Rev. Mr. Whittemore.

Fourthly to see if they will vote that the Rev. Aaron Whittemore shall be forbidden to Do any servise for the futter as a gospel minister for the Parish of Pembroke by a Committee Chosen for that Purpose.

fifthly to chose a Committee to forbid the Rev^d Mr. Aaron Whittemore to Do any service for the futter as a gospel minister for the parish of Pembroke and to make a Return of their Doings to the parish Clark to be Recorded.

Dated at Pembroke in the province of New hampshire October y^e 30 Day 1762

A true copy per. me

John Coffrin Parish Clark

Thom ^s M ^c Lucas	} Selectmen
Will ^m Knox	
David Conor	

At a Legual meeting held at Pembrook November y^e 15, 1762.

firstly voted Thomas Lucas Moderatore

the second Artickel in the warrant Past in the Nagittive.

the third Artickel in the warent Past in the Nagittive.

Fourthly voted that the Rev^l Mr. Aaron Whitmore Shall be forbidden to Do any Service for the futture as a gospel minister for the parish of Pembrook by a Comittee chosen for that Purpose.

fiftly to chuse a Committee to forbid the Rev^l Mr. Aaron Whitmore to Do any Servise for the futter as a gospel minister for the Parish of Pembrook and to make A Return of their Doings to the Parish Clark to be Recorded

A true copy pr. me

John Coffrin Parish clark

We the Subscribers Being a Committee chosen by the Parish of Pembrook to forbid the Rev^l Mr. Aron Whitmore to Do any service as a gospel minister for s^d Parish of Pembrook for the futter and accordingly we have forbid the said Aaron Whitmore to Do any servise for the futter as a gospel minister for said parish. Dated at Pembrook November y^e 15, 1762.

A true copy pr. me

John Coffrin Parish clark

Robert White
Eleazer Allen
James Cochran

At a meeting held at Pembrook January y^e 31 day, 1763

r^{ly} voted Thomas M Lucas Modrator

2^{ly} then the Copy of our Petition was read by Thomas M Lucas according to the order of Court In the hearing of all that would atend after being Posted two Publick days.

A true Copy Pr. me

John Coffrin Parish Clark

Petition for a Justice of the Peace.

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hamp^{re} } Capt. General Governour and Commander
in chief in and over his Majestys Province
of New hampshire and the Hono^{ble} His
Majesty's Council of said Province.

Humbly Shews the Inhabitants of Pembrook In said Province, Whereas your Excellency and Hono^{rs} are furnishing the Several Parts of your Government with Officers of Justice for the Preserving the Economy of Civil authority throughout Your Government

We therefore Humbly Conceive Your Excellency and Hon^{rs} will not think us Impertinent or acting more than our Duty in offering This our Humble Request That we your Petitioners in the Parish of Pembrook aforesaid may have a Person assigned them to Keep the peace Throughout this Province and Con-

sidering your Excellency & Hon^{ty} have very Little personal acquaintance with our Parishioners,

We further Beg Leave to recommend to Your Excellency and Hon^{ty} Mr. John Bryent of said Parish of Pembroke as a suitable & capable person to be Intrusted with such Office, which is of Great Importance as it is Relative to the Honour of the Government & to the Peace and safety of Your Excellency & Hon^{ty} Most dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Petitioners who as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray &c.

Pembroke Sep^r 3^d 1767

John Noyes
Benja Norris
James Conner
John Conner
Samuel James
David Gilman
Thomas McLucas
Daniel McLucas
James McLucas
Benja Jenkins
Joseph Sinkler
John Sinkler
Nathaniel Piper sen.
Nathaniel Piper
Willm Cochran
James Cochran Junr
James Cochran
Nathaniel Martin
Pomfrett Whitthouse
Robert McDaniel
John Cullimore
Francis McCoy
Solomon Whitehouse
Nehemiah McDanel
Robert McDaniel
John Cochran
Josiah Allen
Ichabod Clark
Saml M^cConel
James Fife
Moses McConel
John Man

James Man
John Man Jun.
Nathaniel Walker
Decon James Moor
Robert Moor
William Moor
Jacob Doyne
John Moor
Ambros Goold ?
William Robertson
Andw Robertson
Thos Robertson
Samuel Connor
James Martin
Andrew Buntten
Daniel Moor
James Cunningham
David Connor
Saml Noyes
Benja Noyes
John Noyes Jun.
Saml Karr
Eliphalet Connor
Willm Knox
James Knox
Joseph Cochran
John Cochran Jr.
John McDaniel
James Garey ?
Peter Gilman
Moses Mem— ?

*Petition of Jⁿ Bryent agent for the Presbyterians of
Pembroke.*

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hampshire } Governor and Commander in cheif in &
over said Province. The hon^{ble} His Maj-
esty's Council and The House of Representatives in Gen-
eral Assembly Conven'd Aug^t 24th 1768.

The Humble Petition of John Bryent of Pembroke in said

Province Esq^r agent for the Presbyterean Society in said Pembroke *Sheweth*

That by An act of the General assembly of said Province in the 4th year of His Majestys Reign George the third among other things it was enacted "that all Persons then living in Pembroke belonging to the Presbyterian Congregation there or that should be joined to that Society hereafter Shou'd be exempted & exonerated from paying towards the Support of the Congregational Minister, of said Pembroke;" excepting only for three months, which was the Time of settling the Congregational Minister before any Presbyterean Minister was settled there; for which time the said Presbyterean Society were to pay their Proportion according to their Estates & ability, as in other public charges.—And it was further Enacted by the authority afores^d that the said Presbyterean Society Shou'd pay the sum of Twelve hundred Pounds old Ten^r being a Sum voted in said Pembroke to defray the charges of a Suit at Law bro'ght by the Congregational Minister there for his Salary before due—And said Presbyterean Society were then in & by the same act incorporated into a Separate Parish as to their Church affairs and as to the Support and maintaining the Ministry in their own form as in and by said act it will more fully appear. And your Petitioner's Constituents Afterwards by an Assessment made upon them for the Residue of said Twelve hundred Pounds which they had not paid before the Passing said Act (the Major Part thereof being before paid) under the hands and Seals of William Moore and Isaac White Selectmen of and for said Pembroke for the year A.D. 1765 had the residue of said Sum collected from them for the Payment of said Law Suit, And by Another Assessment under the hands and seals of Ephraim Blunt Will^m Moore and Isaac White Selectmen of said Pembroke for the year 1764 y^r Pet^r's Constituents were obliged to pay the other Sum ordered in said act to be paid by said Constituents to the Congregational Minister of said Pembroke for said three months' Preaching That Isaac White in the Name of the Congregationals of said Pembroke after the Payment of said Sums by the said Presbyterean Society to the said Congregationals in Manner afores^d did Petition the said General Assembly; setting forth among other things contain'd said Petition, "That the said Sums above mentioned were then unpaid and that Particular Persons had given their Security for Payment of the Same with Interest which Several Sums amounted to one hundred and twenty Pounds lawful money besides several years Interest, which ought to be assessed on Part of the Inhabitants of said Pembroke only" Meaning your Petition^r's Constituents. Your Petitioners Constituents As Soon as they

were served with a Copy of said last mentioned Petition they chose Capt. Thomas Lucas as their Agent to appear in their Name and oppose the Prayer of said Petition; who attended two Sessions of the said General Assembly and said Petition not being acted upon at either return'd home at the third Session of said Assembly the said Lucas was accidentally or Providentially hindered from Attending at which Session the Petition passd in favor of the Petitioners without any of said Constituents being present to contradict and disprove the Capital facts therein alledged—In Consequence of which an Act was passd thereupon to levy and collect of the said Constituents the same sum of money they had before paid in Manner afore mentioned. The Committee impowered by said Act to Assess said Sums have assessed said Constituents for the Same. Wherefore your Pet^r Humbly prays in behalf of his said Constituents, That your Excellency and Honors would in your great Wisdom exempt and exonerate them from the Payment of any Part of the Several and respective sums assessed on them by said Committee.—That you would order y^t the Collection of said Tax might be suspended in the mean Time, or any other Way relieve said Constituents from the grievous and insupportable Burden they labor under. And your Peti^r as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Aug 25th 1768

JN^r BRYENT, } Agent for the
 } Presbyterean Society

In Council Aug 27th 1768

read & order'd to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Geo. King Dep. Sec^y

Petition to send a representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General Governour & Commander in chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Freeholders and Others Inhabitants of the Town of Pembroke in the County of Rockingham,
Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners in the aforesaid Town Sensible of the right inherent to English Men to be represented in General Assembly according to the British Constitution and the many Inconveniences attending the want Thereof Pembroke being one of the oldest and best settled Towns within This Province Humbly Pray that your Excellency would be Pleased to grant a Precept to Enable them to send a proper person to represent them in General Assembly as They Can by no

means Think Taxation and Representation Can be Sever'd
without Committing a Palpable Breach in that Inestimable
Paladium of English Liberty,

Magna Charta

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray.

Dated at Pembroke April 12th 1774

Saml McConnell	James Cochran Jun.
James Head	William Martin
Thomas ——— ?	James Martien
Moses Tyler ?	Nehemiah McDaniel
Joseph Baker	Robt McDaniel
Ephraim Blunt	John Cochran
Benja Holt	Solomon Whitehouse
John Mann	Peter Robinson
Joseph Emery Jun.	Robert Cochran
Pomphret Whitehouse	Stephen Bartlett
Benjamin Norris	Caleb Lovejoy
Joshua Tyler	Joseph Swett
Jno Bryant	Samuel Follet
David Connor	Mickel Kimball
David Gilman	David Kimball
Jonathan Dix	Caleb Foster
Richard Bartlett	Moses Foster
Nathan Waite	Nathan Holt
Samuel Conner	Willim Knox
Saml Noyes	Zebulon Robinson
Ebenezer Frye	William Marston Junr.
Nathl Martin	James Fife
Ichabod Robie	David Farnum
Aaron Whittemore	Lemuel Stickney
Daniel Lucas	James Cunningham
Robert Hastings	John Whittemore
John Connor	John Fife
Samuel Jennes	William Fife
John Carlton	James Robinson
John Clark	William Mann
John Ayer	Isaac White
Benja Piper	John Moor Jun
Joseph Emery	Robert Moor
James Knox	Moses McConnell
Nathaniel Piper	Jonathan Eliot
Nathaniel Pyper	Andw Robertson
Willm Cochran	Saml Daniell
James Cochran	Joshua Kimball

PETERBOROUGH.

[This town was granted by the Province of Massachusetts, in 1738, to Samuel Haywood, and others. The first settlement was effected in 1739, by W^m Robbe, Alexander and William Scott, Hugh Gregg and Samuel Stinson. It was incorporated, by the Province of New Hampshire, 17 January 1760. Ed.]

Petition of the town of Peterborough.

Province of) To His Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire } Esq. Commander in Chief in and over
his Majestys Province of New Hamp.
The Honourable his Majestys Council of said Province.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of a Tract of Land Lying in said Province on the West side of Merrymac River of the Contents of about six Miles square. Commonly Called and Known by the Name of Peterborough in Behalf of ourselves and others the Inhabitants of said Tract of Land, Most Humbly shews, That about the year of our Lord 1739 a number of Persons in Consequence of a Grant of a Tract of land, had and obtain'd from the Great And Gen^l Court, or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay by Samuel Haywood and Others his Associates Granting to them the s^d Tract of Land on certain Conditions of Settle^{mt} and in Pursuance whereof a number of People Immediately went on to said Tract of land and began a Settlement, (Tho then Very Far from any other Inhabitants) which we have Continued Increasing ever since the s^d year 1739, Except Sometimes when we left said Township for fear of Being Desroved by the Enemy who Severall times Drove us from our Settle^{mt} soon after we Began, and almost Ruined many of us. Yet what Little we had in the World, Lay there, and we having no wheither Else to Go Return'd to our settle^{mt} as soon as Prudence would addmit, where we have Continued Improving Constantly Ever Since and have Cultivated a Rough part of the Wilderness to a Fruitfull field, the Inhabitants of said Tract of Land are Increas'd to the Number of forty five or Fifty Famelys, and our Situation, with the Respect to the Terms we at first Settl'd on are Such that we Cannot hold any Propri^{ty} meeting at all to pass any Vote or Votes that will be Sufficient to Oblige any person to do any part towards Supporting the Gospel Building a Meeting house and Bridges, Clearing and Repairing Roads all which wou'd not only be a Benefit to us Settlers to have it in our power to do but a Great Benefit to People Travelling to Connecticut river and those Towns settling beyond us. Therefore we Humbly Request of Your Excell & Hon^{ty} to take the Premises under Considera-

tion and Incorporate us that we may be Invested with Town Priviledges and immunities as other towns are in this Province And Your petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

Oct^r 3^d 1759

THOMAS MORISON
JONATHAN MORISON
THOMAS CUNNINGHAM

Your Petition^{rs} beg leave to add as a matter of Considerable Importance that the only Road from Portsmouth thro' this Province to number four is thro' said Township of Peterborough & which makes it more necessary to Repair said Road within said Township & to make many Bridges which they cannot do unless Incorporated & Enabled to Raise Taxes &c.

Petition for a new County.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & the Honourable His Majesties Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Conven'd.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Sundry Towns to which our names are annexed, All in the Province aforesaid Humbly Shews That by Reason of our Remote Situation from the Metropolis of the Government, where all the Courts Legislative & Executive are held Our Expense time & Trouble &c to Recover our Just Debts is Often greater than our Debts, & if the Case Requires Evidences & the Def^t Appeals & procures a few Continuances we had better let any man with Hold a sum Large enough to Distress a poor family than be quite Ruined according to Law. in Perticular our Widows, Fatherless, & Orphans suffer, to settle an Estate agreeable to Law leaves little or nothing to Suport the Survivors. Some are so unreasonable that they Report when we have a County on Our side Merrimac River, the Shire Town will be at that or Connecticut River & some are so weak as to believe it will be so, Either of which is so absurd & unjust it would be an affront to Common Sense & Impartial Justice to Offer Reasons for or against either.

Our prayer is first that we may have a County ———

Secondly that a Committee of Judicious Impartial Gentlemen may View all the Land & number all the Inhabitants, Intended to be Included in said County and every Circumstance being maturely Considered & every Reason Estimated at its Proper Nature we doubt not (from your well Known Clemency

& Impartial Justice) But we shall have a County & the Shire Town Appointed where it will best Accommodate the Inhabitants that are or may be within its Bounds, Which is all our desire & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

Dated Sep. 2^d A D. 1767.

John Young
John Scott
Alexander Swan
Samuel Cunningham
Humphery Emmory
James Houston
Samuel Willson
John Taggart Junr.
Hugh Willson
Thomas Cuningham
Gustavas Swan
Moor Stinson
Alexander Scott
William Scott
William Cochran
William Spear
Robert Willson
Isaac Mitchell
James Robbe
John White
Thomas Morison
John Morison Junr.
Robert Morrison
John White Junr.
Charles Stuart

Charles White
Jonathan Morison
John Goforth
Thomas Morison Junr.
Benjamin Esterbrook
James Willson
John Gragg Junr.
John Willson
Joseph Hammel
Neel Hammel
John Gragg
Samuel Gragg
Matthew Miller
James Miller
William Miller
John Taggart y^e 4th
Hugh Gragg
Sam^l Gragg
James McDonlad
William Robbe Junr.
Sam^l Mitchel
Samuel Stinson
John Robbe
Moore Stinson
James McCoone

Petition relating to Peterborough Slip.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majestys province of New hampshire and vice Admiral of the Same & the Honourable his majestys Council.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth that whereas there is a certain part or Tract of Land in our Said province, Known by the name of Peterborough Slip unincorporated and not enough to make a town or Destrick and not under any regulation whereby we can repair our Roads which Lys unrepaired to the great Detriment of the Inhabitants and the publick in general, we therefore humbly pray your excellency and honours that said tract or parcell of Land known by the Name of Peterborough Slip aforesaid may be annexed to the town of Peterborough as the most Contiguous Incorporate town that we may Injoy every privildge consistant with our Infant State all which we Submit to your excellencys and your honours Clemency and as our Distant Situation is

well known to you we from your well known candor cannot fail to meet with Dispatch. we hope your compliance and we as in Duty bound will ever pray

Peterborough Slip in the province of New hampshire May 18th 1770

John M Allaster	} Inhabittance of s ^d Peterborough Slip and owners of Land in the Same
John Thorn	
William McAllaster	
Peter McAllaster	
William McNee	
David Moor	
John Swan Jun ^r	

Petition relating to Rev. John Morrison.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hamps^r } Capt. General Governor & Commander in
chief in & over the said Province of New
Hampshire, To the Honourable his majes-
tys Councill & House of Representatives.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of The Town of Peterborough in the County of Hillsborough & Province aforesaid Humbly Sheweth that about five years since the Reverend John Morrison was Legally appointed to & ordained in the work of the ministry in said Town since which Time he has been guilty various times of profane swearing, Drunkenness. Immodest Actions & conversation & other Lew'd wicked & Disorderly behaviour Quite unbecoming the christian character by Reason of which your Petitioners Humbly apprehend that he is by no means Suitable to Exercise the sacred function, nor can they derive any Benefit or advantage from his ministry or Injoy any of the christian ordinances under his administration

Wherefore your Petitioners most Humbly pray That your Excellency & Honours would take the matter under your wise consideration & Release them from the agreement Entered into by them at the time of said Morrison settlement That they may have Liberty to settle & support some other minister who shall better support the ministerial character or grant them such other Relief as your Excellency & Honours shall Think proper & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray.

Dated at Peterborough Novem^b 27th 1771

William M Nee
Samuel Miller
James Cunningham

William Cochran
Archibald Cindinor
John Willey

Mathew Miller
James McKeen
William Miller
James Miller
Neall Hammel
Sam^l Willson
James Willson
John Gragg Junr.
John Willson
Daniel Mack
Jasaniah Crosby
William Moore
Hugh Willson
Sam^l Mitchel

James Taggart
William McNe Junr
Alexander Robbe
David Steel
John Smith
Robert Morrison
Joseph Hammill
Saml Cunningham
Thomas Little
John Mitchel
Elijah Puffer
John Puffer
Hugh Gregg
Abraham Holmes

In Council Dec 14, 1771

The Petition was read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo King D. Sec'y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec^r 16, 1771.
New Hampshire } Upon Reading this Petition Voted that the Petition-
ers serve the said John Morrison with a Copy of this
Petition & order of Court thereon that he may be heard thereon the 3^d
Day of the sitting of the General Assembly after the 15th day of Jan-
uary next to shew cause if any he has why the Prayer hereof should not
be Granted.

Attest W^m Parker Clerk

In Council Decem^{br} 18, 1771

This Petition having been Read the above Vote was non concurred & it is ordered that the Petition be dismissed.

Geo King D. Secy

In Council Decem. 20, 1771

This Petition was read & reconsidered and Concurred with this amendment, that the Selectmen of Peterborough be also served with a Copy of this Petition by order of Court.

Attest Geo. King D. Secy

In the House of Representatives Dec 20, 1771

The above Vote of Council being Considered & the Question being put it pass'd in the Negative, it was then proposed that this petition be Dismissed Accordingly the Question being put it pass'd in the affirmative

Petition for a division of Peterborough.

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Capt. Gen^l Com^d in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire & Vice admiral of the same, and to the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Freeholders of the Town of Peterborough Incorporated by Benning Wentworth Esq^r late Gov. of said province, the Free holders of that Tract of Land called Peterborough Slip, the Freeholders of that Tract of land called the Society, together with part of the Free-

holders of the Township of Jeffrey, most Humbly Shews— That your Petit^{ns} are at great inconveniencies as to the situation of said Vacant Tracts unincorporated, that the Tract called the Slip on the Southerly side of said Peterborough, & the Tracts on the Northerly side called the Society is neither of them near half sufficient to make a Corporated town or parish, and y^r petitioners pray your Excellency & Honours to Divide the said Township of Peterborough into two parts by a Westerly line extending from the middle of the East Boundary to the middle of the West Boundary of said town, so that the Southerly part of said Peterb^o may be annexed to the aforesaid Slip, together with four teir of Lotts taken off from the Easterly part of Jeffrey which will make one valuable Township, and your Petit^{ns} pray your Excellency & Honours to add to the North part of Peterb^o about Three miles north of the now north Boundary extending by a west line from the west Boundary of Francestown till it meets with a line extending North from the North-West corner of said Peterb^o so that one other Compleat Township may be made, & your petit^{ns} pray your Excellency & Honours to Incorporate said towns by the lines aforesaid which will much Facilitate the Settlement of the vacant Lands which now lye uncultivated in the aforesaid Towns and Vacant Tracts besides much contributing to the Enjoyment of their Civil & Religious Rights & Priviledges and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

Peterborough Slip

Gilbert McCay
John McAllester
John Davis
James McNee
James Millikin
Solomon Coleman
John Taggart Junr.
David Moore
Andrew Baley
Jacob Burkhard
John Whitman
Henry Sallanham
John Swan
John Taggart
Josiah Crosby
Andrew Conn

Jeffrey.

James Heywood
Samuel Butters
Benjamin Nutting
Daniel Davis
Ezekiel Hildreth
Alpheus Brigham
Phineas Spaulding

John Priest
Benjamin Dole
Ebenezer Thompson
William McAllister
John Davidson
Joseph Turner

Peterborough

William McNee
William McNee Junr.
John Richey
John Taggart
Robert Smith
John Swan Junr.
Samuel Hogg
Thomas Morison Junr.
John Morison
John Smith
Thomas Morison
William Smith
John Scott
James Cunningham
William McCoy
Samuel Miller
Samuel Miller Junr.
Hugh Willson

Neal Hammel
 Jotham Blanchard
 Samuel Gregg
 William Scott
 Samuel Willson
 James Willson
 Abram Holmes
 James McKeen
 Thomas Cunningham

John White Junr.
 Robert Morrison

Society

Moses Morison
 John Graham
 George McClorg
 Jonathan Barnett

April 18th 1774

Petition against a division.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captin General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same and also to the Honourable his Majesties Council.

the Request of your Petitioners Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your Excellency and Honours Petitioners (viz) Petterborough and petterborough Slip So called together with some of the inhabitants of the town of Jaffrey Are Desirous of obtaining four hundred Rods off the East End of Jaffrey:

Now we the Subscribers your Petitioners are of the mind that if Petterborough Be Divided according to their Request and added to the petterborough Slip it will Be accommodated Both in quantity and qualaty for as Compleat a town as the town of Jaffrey as it now Stands Likewise in the West End of s^t Jaffrey there is a Number of Baptists are now Embodyd into a Society and we Expect that they will Enjoy their Prevelidges without interuption also in the north West part of s^t town is included Most part of the Grand Monadnock Mountain and some Great ponds and other uninhabitable Lands (Viz) to the amount of Between two and three thousand Acres.

Also Near the Center of s^d town is Laid out ten acres of a Common and some Considerable of Labour Done upon it and a Burying yard laid out and Some people interred there also the Roads are opened By s^d Center so as to accommodate a Meeting House.

Now if Such a Division Should take place it will unavoidable Deprive us of many Valuable priviledges Such as Maintaining the Gospel and otherwise.

For Which Reasons aforementioned we your Humble Petitioners Request your Excellency and Honours indulgence in Letting us Enjoy the aforesaid Town of Jaffrey as it now Stands Bounded, therefore trusting to your Excellency and

honours fidelity we your Petitioners Shall as we are in Duty
Bound Ever Pray.

Jaffrey April y^e 8th 1774

William Mitchell
Francis Wright
Solomon Grout
Oliver Hale
John Gilmore
Oliver Procter

his

Dennis X Organ ?
mark

Samuele Sherwin
John Harper
Simon Warren

Peter Warren
Joseph Hodge
Willm Smiley
Mathew Wright
Jonathan Priest

Daniel Priest

Jona Blodget

Samuel Milliken

William Milliken

Ebenezer Ingalls

Stephen Adams

Peter McAllaster

Robt Dunlap

Joseph Wright

Roger Gilmore

William Turner

Elded Hetbreth ?

John Little

John Stanley

John Smiley

Jonathan Stanley
Isaac Baldwin
Jason Hemmenway
Thomas Adams
Isaac Wesson
Elias Hathorn
Hiram Dean
Ebenezer Hathorn
Samuel Peirce
Ephraim Whitcom
John Borland
Jacob Peirce
William Hogg
William Fisher
Robert Gilmore
David Hunter
John Briante
Kendall Briant
Joseph Cutter
Joseph Thorndick
Joshua Thorndick
Samuel Woodberry

Baptists, Jeffrey

Henry Coffeen
Alexr McNeill
Jonathan Jewett
David Goodell
John Henderson
Nathaniel Turner
David Allen
David Stanley

PLAISTOW AND ATKINSON.

[See Atkinson.]

Selectmen of Plaistow's Petition about a Constable.

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General
and Governor In chief In and over His Majesties Province
of New hampshire, To the Honor^l Council and Represent-
atives in said Provance, in Gen^l Assembly Convened, y^e 3^d
day of Dec^r 1754.

The Petition of the Subscribers to your Excellency and

Hon^{rs} Humbly Sheweth, that at the annual Town Meeting held in Plastow by adjournment from the Laste Wensday of March Laste in this Present year then and their Was chosen to the offis of a Constabell for the year then Ensuing Moses Belknap and also by Vote of the Town Samuel Kimbell who was one of our Constabel for the year paste was excepted of to serve as Constable Present year in the Roome of Benjamin Pettingall who was chosen Constabel at our firste meeting, so it Hapned our Town Clarke Lieu^t Thomas Hale omitted Cumming to meeting at our adjournment and Refuseth to Record these men as Constabels Because there was no Clark chosen Pro^{tem} for that Day to Return the Votes to him. As to their being Legally chosen Excepted of by the Town and sworn it can be attested to not onely by the Moderator but by the Town then present the Town not Noing the Nesesity of a Clerk it was omitted and their arisesth a Dispute in the Town that wee have no Constabels Notwithstanding the Moderators giving them in to the Town Clerk upon oath and they have ofisiated in their offis by sarving warrants and wee have Committed a Tax or Assessment to them.

If your Excellency and Hon^{rs} would Compassionate ouer Surcumstances and Releave us under ouer Present Deficuly as in your Wisdom shall think beste.

SAMUEL LITTLE	} Selectmen for Plastow
JOHN WEBSTER	
THOMAS CHENEY	

In Council December 12th 1754

read & ordered to be sent to the Hon^{ble} House
Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec^r 12th 1754 Upon
New Hamp^{ts} } Reading the within Petition and hearing the partys, The
House are of opinion y^t the Town clerk of Plaistow ought
to Record the Votes refered unto in the within Petition and that he be
and hereby is directed to do the same.

Matthew Livermore Clerk

In Council Eodem Die
read & Concurred

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

Eodem Die

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Province of } Hampstead November 1st 1754. then the within
New Hampshire } named Nicholas White Esqr. made Solemn oath that
on the Second day of April last past the annual Town
Meeting in Plastow in said Province was held by an adjournment at the
Meeting House in said Town at which time and place the within written
voats was past.

sworn before Daniel Little Just. peace.

To Left. Thomas Hale town Clerk for Plastow, these are to desire you

forth with to Record y^e within written vote in the town Book—they being the true minnits of the town meeting.

Plastow Novembr y^e 1st 1754

Nicolas White } Moderator for
 } s^d meeting

Province of } Plastow Aprill y^e 2, 1754. At the annuall town meet-
New Hamp^{sh} } ing this Day hild by adjornment from y^e Last Wensday
 } of March Last the meeting being opened at time and place,

By vote of the town Mr. Sam^l Kimball is Except of to serve as Constable this year Ensuing In the Place of Mr. Benjamin Pettengel who was chosan Constabel at our Last meeting Past on the Last Wensday of March.

By vote of the town Mr. Moses Belknapp is chosen Constabel for the west part of y^e town for the year Ensewing. Jonathan Page chosen tithing man Steven Dole Hogreaf. the meeting adjourn to the 8th of Aprill Instant at 2 of the clock in the after Noon the town Clark not present

Nicolas White, Moderator

Vote of Haverhill District to set off Timberlain.

At a Legal District meeting Holden at the old meeting House in said District on february y^e 9th 1747, on the behalf of a Petition from Timberlane so called with their Desire to be set off into a Destinct Parish by themselves as followeth viz: Beginning at Jonathan Stevens South West corner bound near the Islande Pond then Running by the Easterly Side of Clements Land to his South Easterly Bound then Running by the Northerle side of Caleb Heaths and John Dustans Land to the Brook that Runs from Emersons mill, then Running by the Southerly side of Capt. George Littles and Thomas Littles Land to his Easterly corner Bonnds which is in Cloughs Medow, then Running to the North-westerly corner of Thomas Hales Land and on the northerly side of said Hale's land and from the North Easterly corner thereof to the nearest Place in Almesbury Line. The said Timber lane ware set of by a vote according to the Bounds above mentioned excepting Capt. George Little and his Son Thomas and Joseph and their Lands to be kept on the South of their Line.

A True Coppe Taken from the Book

Thomas Hale District Clerk

Portsmouth Feb. 13th 1746

Sir.

I am directed by His Excellency to acquaint you that in order to Support the Petition of Peter Petee & others of Haverhill district, it will be necessary to have a plan taken of that district Including Mr. Cushings Parrish & to mark on s^d Plan the Situation of each House. For which service The Gov^r has appointed Peter Pettee Richard Heath Joseph Little & Thomas Little, who are to take the plan above mention'd upon oath & return it into the Secretarys office, as soon as it can be conveniently done. The charge arising hereon to be born as shall be ordered by the Governor & Council I am Sr.

Your hum^{ble} Serv^t

R. W. Sec^y

By His Exc^{ys} Command
To Mr. Thomas Little
in Haverhill district

Petition for a town or parish.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr. Governour and Commander in Cheif in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^{re} and the hon^{ble} his Majestys Councill for said Province.

Humbly Shew Your Petitioners Inhabitants in the westerly part of Haverhill District,

That your Petitioners live at a Great Distance from any place where the Publick worship is maintained. That Our Situation is such as is Convenient for a Township or Parish But cannot conveniently be joyned with any other.

That there are already Sixty or Seventy families here settled and more daily Setling who must be under very great Disadvantages with Regard to the Publick worship of God unless we can obtain to have it Settled among Ourselves.

We therefore pray your Excellency & Honours that we may be Incorporated into a Town or Parrish as you shall Judge most proper by the following Bounds Beginning at the westerly corner of Jonathan Stevens' land by the Islandy Pond and from thence to the Northwesterly Corner of Thomas Hales farm and from thence Southerly to the Province line so as to make this line half way between Mr. Cushing's Meeting house and John Watt's at Providence Brook or as near to half way as may be tho't Reasonable, from thence westerly by y^e Province line to the head of the District then Northerly so far as that an East line passing from the end of this Northerly line to the first mentioned Bounds shall Include all the Land to the Southward of Islandy Pond.

And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c.

John Watts
Seth Pattee
Richard Patee
Michah Amey
Obediah Duston
Caleb Duston
Obediah Eastman
Alexander Gordon
John Watts Jun^r
Caleb Heath
Joseph Palmer
James Heath
Samuel Duston
Moses Belknap
Philip Nelson
John Clements

Edward Carlton
Joseph Little Jun^r
John Currier
James French
George Little
Samuel Watts
Wyman Wise
Thomas Cross
Benjamin Wheeler
Stephen Wheeler
Richard Heath
John Duston
Philip Hite
Thomas Duston
William Morrison

We the Subscribers Consent to the Lines mentioned in the petition of Daniel Little & others any thing mentioned herein to y^e contrary notwithstanding.

JOHN PECKER
JOHN WATTS

Petition against being set off as a new Parish.

To His Excelency Bennen Wintworth Esqr. Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon^{ble} Council of the same.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers in our own behalf and others, belonging to the Westerly Part of Haverhill District that now belongeth To the Rev. Mr. James Cushings Parrish Humbly Sheweth, that it is our Desier and Prayer that we may not be separated in to any other Town or Parrish (from the Easterly Part) of the District but that we may all be Incorporated in to a Town or Parrish (Excepting what has bin voted off by the District To Timber lane) so that we may Injoy our Priviledge and Proprties for us and our children that we may have our meeting House and our Minister That we have bin at Great Cost and charges for building Seteling and maintaining for near Twenty years last Past and if your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council think it proper to mak us a town with the Easterly Part of the District we Shall Leave that to your Hon^{ble} Wisdom, other ways Pray that we may abide as we are and In fullfilling our Desier and Humble Petition you will Greatly oblig your Sarvants,

Who as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.

Haverhill District December y^e 29th 1749

Benj^m Richards
Jonathan Page
John Dow
Timothy Page
Caleb Page Junr.
James Noyes
John French
Samuel Little
Jonathan Page Junr.
Joshua Knight
Ebenezer Knight
Joseph Noyes
Thomas Noyes
John Knight
Nathaniel Knight Jun.
Joseph Page
Daniel Whitticker

Moses Belknap
Joseph Little Junr.
Eldad Ingalls
Edmund Page
Nath^l Knight
Abiel Knight
Robert Greenough
Humphrey Noyes
Thomas Hale
Timothy Ladd
Caleb Page
John Webster
Daniel Poor
Jonathan Nelson
Israel Webster
Jonathan Clements
Moses Page

Petition of the Inhabitants in the West part of Haverhill District desiring not to be incorporated.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth Esqr. Governor and Comander in Cheaf in and over his Majesties province of New hampshear in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council &c.

We the Subscribers being inhabittance in the South west

part of Haverhill District and Included within the Boundaries of the Last Petition brought forward by Capt. John Pecker and Mr. John Watts Considering the small number of Inhabitation and the Low Circumstances that many of them Labours under it is our Humble opinion that we are no ways able to supporte the Gospell amongst ourselves at present therefore we Desier your Excellency and Honours to take our case under your wise Consideration and not incorporate us into a town or Distinct parrish according to the prayer of the above s^t Petition till we are better abell to bare the Charges for we are obliged by Contract to the Rev. Mr. Cushen and are not as yet set of from his Parish.

Dated Haverhill District July y^e 24th 1749

Benj Richards
James Noyes
Jonathan Nelson
Daniel Flood
Thomas Noyse Jr.
Caleb Page
Joseph Noyes
Joseph Page

John Corrier
Eldad Ingalls
Daniel Poor
John Webster
Jonathan Page
Thomas Little
Edmund Page

Hog & others Petition not to Joyn with Mr. Hazzen according to his Plan.

To his Excelecny Bennin Wintworth Esqr. and Honorable Counsel.

We your humble Pertisioners take Leave to Let you know part of our Greavies Couused by Mr. Richard Hazzen Pertisions and plan if he obtains will Cut and Carve our Land & privelage all to pieces who ware Orderly Settled on Kingstown Property & have a Petition Lodg with the Select men of our town in order to be set of as a parish. We pray that we may have the opertunity to Let your Excelency and Honorable Counsel know what the town does for us who are Lawfull Setlars who can have now privelage in that Regard unless we have part of what is in his Plan.

We subscribe ourselves yoor Humble Pertisinors.

Kings' September 16th 1740.

James Huse
Jacob Gordy
Mesac Gordy
Jonathan Colby
Orlando Colby
Moses Tucker ?
James Graves
John Hog
Joseph Dow
Reuben Clough
John Straw
John Bond

Isral Huse
Daniel Hiberd
Daniel Kid
Israel Huse Junr.
William Straw
John Pressey
John Straw Jun.
Philep Wells
Jacob Wells
Benjamin Tucker
Jacob Tucker

NOTE.—A Plan of the district is found in the MS. Vol. p. 284. Ed.

Sanborn, Palmer & Weares report of Haverhill District.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r

May it please your Excellency,

In Obedience to your Excellencys appointment we have View'd het Situations of the Inhabitants of Haverhill District to see if said District may Conveniently be Incorporated into three Townships having Regard to those People of Salisbury and Almsbury District above South Hampton that they may be Provided for in one of the Townships,

And Beg leave to Report

That upon the best survey we Could make and Information we could have from the Inhabitants it appears to us that the Circumstances & Situation of the Inhabitants of said District (as well as their Desire) is such that they cannot at present Conveniently be Incorporated into more than two Townships.

It appears to us that at the upper or Northwesterly part of said District the Inhabitants are Compact and Conveniently Situate for a Township or Parish, The Bounds of which (in Our Opinion) may be as follows. To begin at the North East Corner of Tyngs farm mentioned in Mr. Hazzens Plan and from thence to Run to the South west Corner of Hales farm from thence to Woodbridges Corner Bounds from thence to Morses Corner as mentioned in said Plan and from thence to Run north to Shapleys line then to follow Shapley's line westwardly till it strikes Haverhill Northwest line so called then to follow Haverhill Northwest line to the head of the District, And for the Bounds on the other side to begin at the North East Corner of Tyngs farm beforementioned from thence to run on the line of Tyng's farm, half way to the Bounds on Hog Hill and from thence on a strait Course to Clements Southwest corner bounds by Islandy Pond and then as Described in the Plan to the head of the District. This we think will conveniently make a Township and the other part of the District we cannot find any way be Divided at present to be Incorporated into more than one Tounship to be so well for the Inhabitants as they are now.

John Sandburn
Samuel Palmer
Meshech Weare

Portsm^o Sep^r 18th 1746

Petition of Haverhill district for a new Parish.

To His Exelency Bening Wintworth Esqr. Goviner and Commander in cheaf in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshear in New England and to the Honourable His Majesties Councill &c.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitance in Haverhill Des-
trict and Province afore s^d Humbly sheweth, that we are so Remote from the Place of the Publick worship of God that we cannot attend on it unless with Greate Difficulty and our other charges No Less Difficult. May it therefore Please your Excellency and Honours to take our case under your wise Consideration and Incorporate us and all that Do or shall

Inhabit with us and a sufficient Parcell of Land Into a town or Distinct Parrish so that we may sit up and maintain the worship of God amongst us and Carry on Such business as shall be Nessesary with the following Boundaries. Beginning at the Stake which stands in the Province Line near Jonathan Clements Dwelling House thence Runing noth notheast till it strikes Haverhill norwest Line thence by s^d Line till it Comes to the angle pond thence westerly to the wash Pond and so by the Wash pond brook to the Islande pond and so westerly to London Dary Line thence by s^d London dary Line till it comes to Methuen Line thence South easterly by Methuen Line till it comes to the province Line thence by the Province Line to the first Bounds mentioned and you will Gratly oblige your Humble Petitioners and we shall as in Duty bound for ever Pray &c.

Peter Pattee
Richard Heath
Joseph Little
Thomas Little
Moses Page
Samuel Watts
Stephen Dole
Paul Duston
John Dustin
Alexander Gordon
Richard Patee
John Ingalls
Thomas Pope
Benja Rawlings
Caleb Page
Benja Richards
John Dow
Edmund Page
Jonathan Page
Joseph Page
Wyman Wise
Daniel Whitaker
Gershom Pike
Nathan Mores
Timothy Lad
John Corour
Henry Sargent
Abraham Annes
Timothy Page
Thomas Dustin

Obadiah Dustin
Obadiah Eastman
Jonathan Wheeler
Benjamin Wheeler
Stephen Wheeler
Abner Wheeler
Jonathan Wheeler junr
John Corrier Junr
John Watts Jun
Nathaniel Watts
Daniel Poor
Moses Belknap
Joseph Gile
John Clement
Daniel Flood
Jonathan Hutchins
Nathaniel Knight
George Little
John Watts
Joseph Noyes
Ebenezer Knight
Joshua Knight
James Noyes
Humphrey Noyes
Thomas Noyes
John Knight
Nathaniel Knight Jun
Seth Patee
Benjamin Heath

Hazzen and others Petition for a Special Act, &c.

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr.
 New Hampshire } Governour and Commander in chief in &
 over s^t Province of New Hampshire, The
 Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council & House of
 Representatives in General Court assembled
 at Portsmouth August 1744

Humbly Shew the Subscribers That sometime in the months of September October or November last many persons liveing in Haverhill District in s^t Province or near to the same in the Town of Haverhill had severall of their Cattle taken out of their fields, or pastures and kill'd also Severall Swarms of Bees were stolen & the Honey carry'd off by some thievish & ill minded persons, as also axes Poultry of all sorts & other things.

That severall of the hides were found in that part of s^t District which is Commonly called Rumford Parish either hid in barns under y^e hay, or in other dark holes with the head and horns cut off for which reason with many other evidences we are well satisfied, the actors of these thefts & Robberies live most of them in s^t District or Parish.

That forasmuch as these actions are for the most part committed in the dark where positive evidences can scarcely ever be had, it is very hard & difficult to detect & convict the criminals in the Ordinary course and Method of the Law, by which means the Guilty are become verry bold & daring in their evil practices and the sufferers not like to have any recompense unless Some further provision in the law can be made.

We therefore Earnestly request your Excellency & Honours to Compassionate our distressed circumstances and afford us releif either by making Some act to bring suspected persons & their aiders & assistants on their oaths which we humbly conceive has been of Great Service in Trespass or Otherwise as your Excellency & Honours in your known wisdom goodness & piety shall think best & for your Excellency & Honours your Humble petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Stephen Huse
 Daniel Bradley
 James McHard had stolen 3 fatt Catl
 & on Hors & Cow
 Samuel White Jun.
 Richard Has-eltime
 Samuel Johnson
 Stephen Dow
 Stephen Wheteaker
 William Stevens
 Nehemiah Stevens
 Peter Morse

Edward Calton Jun.
 Benja Gale
 Henery Springler
 Nathaniel Balch
 Solomon Springler
 Daniel ———
 Nathaniel March
 Jonathan Springler
 James Wise
 Edward pees Hoit ?
 Isaac Johnson
 James Black

Richard Hazzen
 Joshua Bayley had stolen a swarm of
 Bees
 Edward Flint
 Edmund Greenleaf
 Nathaniel Walker
 David Marsh
 James Pearson
 Jno Mitchel
 James How Lost a swarm of Bees
 Benja Grele
 Jacob Chase swarm of bees.
 John Pecker on cowe
 Wilim Folsby
 Nathan Heseltine
 Nathan Merrill
 Abner Kimball
 Richard Emerson
 Abraham Kimball
 John Molton
 Jonathan Shepard
 Nehemiah Emerson
 James Emerson
 Joseph Litel?
 William Johnson Jun.
 Samuel Wontes
 Henry Herring
 Obadiah Parry
 James Ayer one swarm of bees
 Abiel Foster
 Samuel White

John White Jun.
 Joseph Atwood
 Moses How
 Joseph Patten
 Jas Pecker
 Nathaniel Knowlton
 Isaac Dalton
 Obediah Emerson
 Thos Little
 Jonathan Webster
 Oliver Sanders
 — Frink
 Ebenr Belnap
 John Osgood Jun.
 Jonathan Leafkin
 Daniel Poor
 Jonathan March
 William Samson
 Moses Hazzen
 Benjamin Richards
 Daniel Davies
 Nath Cogswell
 Joseph Clement
 Obadiah Bellknap
 Wm Hancock
 Thomas Follansbe
 Timothy Emerson
 Jonathan Stevens
 Joh. Stewart, on fat cowe stolen
 Alexandr Cambil on fat cowe

Memorial of Col. James White and others.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Gov-
 New Hamp^{sh} } ernor the Honourable his Majesties Council
 and Representatives of said Province in
 General Court assembled.

The Memorial of James White and others humbly sheweth
 Whereas by a late act or Law of this Province the Town of
 Plaistow is Divided and part of it become a New and Sepa-
 rate Parish, which Includes our Houses and Lands, we ap-
 prehend that our Situation and other Circumstances will render
 it very Difficult for us to become members of the said new
 Parish. And it being Just and reasonable to alow all men
 freedom and Liberty with respect to the choice of a society
 wherein to join in Public worship—

We therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honours will
 according to your wonted favours Enact and order that we
 with our Estates may be set off from said new Parish, be an-
 nex'd and belong to said Plaistow (old Parish) in the Same

manner as heretofore. And we as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray.

Sep^r 1767

James White
John Webster
Israel Webster
John Webster Jun.
Jonathan Eatton
Moses Page
Jonathan Webster
William Webster

Daniel Whitticker
Daniel Poor
Daniel Poor jun.
Jonathan Page
Stephen Noyes
Humphrey Noyes
Robert Greenough

Petition of Sundry Inhab^{ts} of Plaistow.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Cap-
New Hamp^{re} } tain General Governor & Comander in
Chief in and over his Majestys Province
aforesaid &c: & the Honorable his Majestys Council and
the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled
at Portsmouth.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Shews.

Whereas there has been lately part of Plaistow set off and made a new & Seperate Parish bounded according to certain Lines which goes by the Name of Atkinson in which we with Our Estates falls into the said new Parish, Our Prayer & request to this Honourable Court above mentioned is that Whereas we have heretofore assisted in building a Meeting House a Parsonage House & have now a Minister settled in Plaistow according to our principles & minds Therefore Our Desire & request is that We with our Estates may be set off from said New Parish and be annexed to the Old Parish or Town of Plaistow that we might be & remain as heretofore.

We therefore Pray that your Excellency and Honors will take the matter under Consideration & grant such Relief for those who desire to be set off as aforesaid as you in your wisdom shall think best, And we as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

JAMES WHITE
MOSES GREENOUGH
JONATHAN EATON
SAMUEL KIMBALL

Plaistow Septemb^r 1767

Province of } In the House of Representatives Septem^r 14th 1767
New Hamp^{re} } The within Petition being Read & Considered,

Voted that the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the Sitting of the General Assembly after the first day of Novein^r next & that they serve Mr. Thomas Noyes who is appointed to call the first meet-

ing in said Atkinson with a Copy of this Petition & Order that Objections may be made to granting the Prayer of the Petition if any there be.

M. Weare Clr.

In Council Eod^m Die

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson Jr. Sec.

Vera Copia

T. Atkinson Jun Sec

Petition for release from support of Hugh Potter.

Province of } To His Excellency the Governor to the Hon^{ble}
New Hamp^{sh} } His Majestys Council, and the House of
Representatives of said Province in Gen-
eral Court assembled May y^e 18th A Domini 1774

In behalf of the Town of Plaistow in the County of Rock-
ingham in said Province—the Petition of the Selectmen and
Overseers of the Poor of said Town of Plaistow Humbly
Sheweth.

That about Twenty years Since one Hugh Potter, a very
aged man, without leave or liberty orderly had, or obtained,
from Said Town, or the Selectmen thereof, Did come into and
Obrude himself upon the said Town of Plaistow by taking
residence therein, & dwelling there to this day—That accord-
ing to the best accounts from the said Potter he was a native
of Great Britain & had never gained a legal settlement else-
where.

That from Early life till near the time of his Coming into
said Plaistow he the said Potter had been in his Majestys Ser-
vice both by sea & land, and that he had been in several
Fights as long ago as in y^e Reign of Queen Ann &c. and that
by reason of y^e s^d Hughs account of & about himself he was
not legally warned to depart out of the Said Town of Plais-
tow. That the said Hugh Potter has been unable to support
& maintain himself ever since his residence in said Town.
That for Seventeen years last past the said Hugh Potter hath
been maintained & supported at the Public Cost & charge of
y^e s^d Town of Plaistow, that the Cost & charge thereof has
not been less than Eleven pounds lawful money p^r an^m for
several years past, and is now increasing So as greatly to Dis-
tress, & burthen the s^d Town &c.

Wherefore the petitioners in behalf of said Town of Plais-
tow Humbly pray yr. Excel^{ty} & Hon^{rs} to take y^e premises un-
der consideration and in your great goodness Grant and make
an order that the s^d Hugh Potter may for the future be main-
tained, & supported at the Cost & charge of this, his Majes-

tys Province of New Hampshire & that the said Town of Plaistow be no longer Chargeable with his support and likewise favour us on account of y^e charges we have been at in time past or such other way & manner as your Excel^t & Hon^{rs} shall think best to relieve y^e s^d Town & the Pet^r as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Plaistow May y^e 17th 1774

JOSEHH WELCH	}	Selectmen &
DAVID STEVENS		Overseers of y ^e
EZEKIEL GILE		Poor of Plaistow

In Council May 18, 1774

The Petition was read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly

Geo. King, Dep. Sec.

In the House of Representatives May 19th 1774

The within Petition Read & Considered and Voted that it be Dismissed.

M. Weare, Clerk

PIERMONT.

Petition of the Com^{tee} of Piermont to the Governor.

Province of } New Hamp ^{re} }	To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq ^r Cap- tain General Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire.
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The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee of the Proprietors of Piermont in said Province, Humbly Sheweth

That in the year 1765, The said Proprietors had a Grant of said Township under certain conditions of settlement to be performed in Five years from the date of said Grant, and that your Petitioners have laid out and expended Large sums of money in Cultivating said Town & have settled Fourteen Families Thereon, but nevertheless, Through badness of Roads, and the Impossibility of obtaining Provision in that part of the Country and also by means of the said Petitioners being Employed a Considerable part of their time in Transacting the Publick business of the Province, they have not been able fully to comply with the conditions of the charter of said Town, and Therefore Humbly Pray your Excellency would Grant a further Reasonable Time to the said Proprietors, to Fulfill the same and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

Portsmouth December 22^d 1770

Mark H. Wentworth
Jonathan Warner
John Tufton Mason Esq
Geo. Jaffrey
Rich^d Jenness
Jon^a Moulton

D. Warner
D. Peirce
John Goffe
Clem^t March
William Parker
Christo^r Toppam

PLYMOUTH.

Petition for leave to send a Representative.

Province of	}	To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq
New Hampshire		Captain General Governor and Com-
Grafton ss		mander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire &c.

The Petition of the Free holders of the Town of Plymouth within the County of Grafton aforesaid, Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners some months past preferred a Petition to your Excellency praying for the privilege of a Representation for said Town of Plymouth, in the Legislative Authority in said province. Agreeable to the Right inherent in them, as Englishmen and Freeholders.

That said Petition by some means or other was dismissed.

That your humble Petitioners again earnestly Pray your Excellency would take this petition under your wise consideration and grant them that privilege they think their Just Due by issuing a Precept for the choice of a proper person to represent them in the General Assembly Their Interest now suffering much for want of that most invaluable Privilege And your humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c..

SAM EMERSON	}	Selectmen
JAMES HARVELL		
THOMAS LUCAS		

John Fenton
Abel Webster
Gersm Fletcher
Francis Worcester
Josiah Brown
Stephen Webster
John Willoughby
David Webster
James Blodget
David Hobart
George Hull
Benja Goold
Jacob Merrill
David Nevens

Ebenezer Hartshorn
William Nevens
Jonas Ward
Edward Evans
William Simpson
Moses Dow
Onesiferous Marsh
William Greenough
Elisha Bean
Samuel Marsh
Joseph Smith
Saml Derben
Thomas M'Cluer
Jonathan Blodget

Joseph Brown
 Gershom Hobart
 James Barnes
 Phineas Lovejoy
 Peter Stearns
 Jotham Cummings
 Stephen Webster Jun.
 Jonathan Blodget
 Peter Dearborn
 Paul Wells
 Benjamin Wells

Zebediah Richardson
 George Patterson
 Zachariah Parker
 Solomon Wheeler
 Joseph Wheeler
 James Ryan
 Ephraim Kelse
 Nahum Powers
 Jacob Marsh
 John Webber

Petition for a re-survey of land &c.

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr.
 New Hamp^{re} } General Governor and Commander in chief
 in and over his Majestys Province of New
 Hampshire, The Honourable his Majesty's
 Council and house of Representatives in
 General Assembly Convened.

The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee chosen by the Proprietors of Plymouth Humbly Sheweth, That the Corner boundary of Four Townships viz: Plymouth, Campton, Rumney and Cockermouth depends upon a certain Point or End of a Line, Nineteen Miles in Length, upon a Certain Point of Compass from a Certain Tree at Connecticut River. That the Severall Partys have at their own Private Cost made Several Surveys but do not agree one with another, Either in Length of Line or point of Compass, which throws the said Townships into Great Confusion and uncertainty, Concerning their Boundaries, and Greatly Retards the Settlement of the Land. Wherefore your Petitioners pray the advisement of This Honourable Court and that a Committee may be appointed to survey the said Nineteen miles and thereby to Establish the said Corner Boundary.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray &c.

Portsmouth December 20th 1770

S. LIVERMORE } Committee
 MOSES LITTLE } for Plymouth

Province of } In the House of Representatives Dec^r 22^d 1770
 New Hamp^{re} } Voted that the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on
 the fourth Day of the Siting of the General Assembly
 after the first Day of March next and that the Petitioners Cause the
 Substance of this Petition and Order of Court to be Published in the
 New Hamp^{re} Gazett six weeks that any person may shew Cause why
 the Prayer of the Petition should not be Granted.

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council Jan^y 18th 1771

Read and concurred

Geo King Dep Sec.

Province of } In the House of Representatives March 26 1771.
 New Hampshire } The Within Petition Considered and Voted that
 it be Dismissed

M. Weare Clr.

Petition for a representative.

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain general governor & commander in chief in & over said province of New Hampshire &c. &c.

The petition of us the Subscribers freeholders & inhabitants of Plimouth in the county of Grafton in the Province aforesaid,

Most Humbly Sheweth

that the said town of Plimouth is one of the best inhabited towns in said County and one of the towns appointed by y^e law of this province for holding the courts of Justice in, and that no representative hath hitherto been chosen within the said County to sit in the General Assembly of this province. They therefore pray your Excellency's consideration of the premises, and that the said petitioners may be admitted to the privilege of sending a representative to the next General Assembly & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

January 19th 1774

William Simpson
 Peter Emerson
 Sam Emerson
 David Hobart
 Abel Webster Town clerk
 James Harvel
 David Webster
 John Willoughby selectman
 William Nevens
 Daniel Wheeler
 Peter Hobart
 Thomas Meluer
 Joseph Smith
 Jacob Marsh
 Amos Webster
 James Hobart
 Francis Worcester
 Joseph Brown
 Josiah Brown
 Benjamin Dearborn
 Amos Phillips
 Jotham Cumings
 Phineas Loyjoy
 Ebenr Hartshorn
 Stephen Webster
 Solomon Blood
 Peter Stearns

Silas Brown
 Eleazer Parker
 Solomon Wheeler
 James Ryan
 Gersm Fletcher
 John Webster
 Stephen Webster Jun.
 Benja Derben
 Ebenr Blodget
 James Blodget
 Edward Evans
 Zebediar Richardson
 David Nevens
 Benjamin Gould
 Samuel Derben
 James Marsh
 Winthrop Wells
 Elisha Bean
 Thomas Lucas
 Abijah Wright
 Jonas Ward
 Henry Phelps
 George Hull
 Nathl Hull
 John Calfe
 Gershom Hobart

VOLUME VI.

PORTSMOUTH TO WOLFEBOROUGH.

PORTSMOUTH.

[This is one of the oldest towns in the State, having been settled in the year 1623. Its Indian name was Pascataquack, and the first English name was *Strawberry Bank*. It was incorporated by the name of Portsmouth, 28 May 1753, by the Colony of Massachusetts, under whose government the people of New Hampshire then were. The inhabitants in their petition for incorporation say, "the name of this plantation at present being *Straberry Banke*, accidentally so called by reason of a banke where strawberries was found in this place": They humbly desired "to have it called PORTSMOUTH, being a name most suitable for this place, it being the river *mouth* and *good harbor as any in this land*." JOHN FARMER, Esq.]

Orders relating to a School.

Portsm^y 16 Nov^r 1708.

Notwithstanding the pious care of the Governor Council and Assembly of this Province in Raysing a free Gramar Schoole for the province to be kept in the town of Portsmouth being the head of the Government & their good provision for the maintainance of the master:

The Council are now Informed that there is no provision made by the Toun of Portsmouth for a Schoole house for the receipt of the master and schollars:—

Ordered, that the selectmen of the toun of Portsmouth be notified of their neglect herein, and that they forthwith provide a suitable house for the said schoole to be kept, that the schollars may not lose their time within three days next coming upon the penalty of forty pounds to be levied upon their persons & estates as other fines & charge^s into the treasury to be expended in the building of a good schoole house for the future service, that the aforesaid good and religious Act of the Assembly be not evaded & eluded.

May &c (as early as 1709).

Upon the vacancy of the School by Mr. Gambling's desire to be discharged, the Council have taken it into Consideration of calling a new school ma^r who would very gladly submit to yo^r Exce^l Recommendation of M^r Dudley Broadstreet; but fearing he would not be every way soe agreeable have therefore by the good character they have had of Mr. Dan^l Ringe of Ipswich, to give him a call and agree with him for 4 years According to the Act—humbly desiring y^r Excell^{ty} concurrence therewith.

[See Act referred to, Prov. Pap., Vol. III. pp. 364, 365. Ed.]

Petition for a grant of land.

To his Excellency Sam^l Shute Esq^r Capt. Gen^l & Comander
in Chief in & over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hamp^r,
and to the Hon^{ble} the Council for said Province :

The humble Petition of the selectmen of the Town of
Portsm^r within the Prov^{ce} of New Hamp^r—Humbly sheweth :

That the former Select men for the s^d Town of Portsm^o
sometime since Petition'd to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} to
have a small tract of land granted to the Inhabitants of s^d
Portsmouth at the head of Dover, w^{ch} was granted, and upon
view of the s^d tract of land and mature consideration thereon
your Petition^{rs} find that it will not answer for the intended
Settlement.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray to have the liberty
to withdraw the s^d Petition and to have a tract of land granted
for a Township to the Inhabitants of Portsmouth whom we
represent, of six miles front and eleven miles back into the
woods to be divided among the s^d Inhabitants in proportion to
their rates agreeable to a vote past at a Town meeting of the s^d
inhabitants in March last past, beginning four miles and half
from Dover North east corner bounds upon Dover head line,
then to run from the s^d head line upon a South west point half
a point northerly two miles for the depth of the Land granted
to the Iron works ; Then the said Tract to begin at the end
of the s^d two miles and run upon the Same point Eleven
miles into the woods, and from thence upon a parallell line
w^{ch} Dover head line six miles to New Boston northerly corner,
and from the end of the two miles afores^d six miles upon a
parallell line w^{ch} Dover head line to New Boston easterly line
which makes an oblong or Long square tract of Land as is
laid down in a plot here annex^t : And your Petition^{rs} as in
duty bound will ever pray.

THO^s PEIRCE

JOHN CUTT

JOSEPH MOULTON

Selectmen for the town of Portsm^o :

The prayer of the petition granted.

May 4, 1722.

R. Waldron, Cler. Con.

Request to the Selectmen of Portsmouth.

To the Select men of the town of Portsm^o in New Hampshire :

Gentlemen : Whereas in an Act of this Province (of y^e 4th year of
his Majesty King George) entituled an Act for y^e better regulating of
Town and Proprietary Meetings, among other things, It is enacted in
the words following : "That when and so often as ten of the free-

"holders of any Town shall signify under their hands to the selectmen their desire to have any matter or thing inserted into a warrant for calling a town meeting, the Selectmen are *hereby required* to insert y^e Same in the next warrant they shall issue for y^e calling a Town meeting"—

And Whereas at a thin meeting of the said Toun held by adjourn^t in said Toun, the 7th of September, 1724, several votes were past as we conceive wthout due consideration, respecting the three nooks & gores of land mortgaged to Maj^r Wm. Vaughan, which votes (in our opinion) are unreasonable & unjust, and to us a great greivance, & (as we are given to understand) very disagreeable and * * * contrary to y^e mind of y^e toun in general:

Therefore, We the subscribers & freeholders of y^e said Town, do now by these Presents signify to you y^e it is our desire to have y^e said votes reconsidered at y^e next town meeting, in order to have y^e subject matter thereon more maturely & deliberately discussed & repass'd upon to y^e end that strict justice may be done, our grievance removed & y^e town contented touching y^e premises; and accordingly do earnestly pray that the same be inserted into the next warrant (alias notification) which you shall issue for y^e calling a town meeting Pursuant to the afores^d (in part recited) Act.

In testimony of our desire as aforementioned we have hereunto set our hands.

y^e 26th of Feb^r 1724-5.

(Copy)

Petition in relation to a meeting house at the Plains.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives convened in General Assembly.—

The Petition of Sundry his Majestys loyal Subjects, Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Southwesterly Part of the town of Portsmouth in said Province:

Most humbly sheweth: That about seven years agoe several of your Petitioners with some others (at a vast expence) erected a House for the Publick worship of God at the Plains (so called) in said Portsmouth; and from the month of January 1725 to March 1727, defray'd the charge of constant preaching in the said house, paying their full Proportion of the Parish Tax for the support of the Gospel Ministry at the Bank at the Same time: But that Burthen bearing a little too heavy, the Proprietors of the said house and others commodiously situated for attending the Publick worship there, at length requested the Parish to which they belong'd to exonerate them from any further levys towards the subsistence of the Reverend Mr. Fitch, which they (like well-dispos'd & true Christian brethren) by a unanimous vote dated the 4th of

March 1727, in a full Parish meeting readily comply'd with; in order to enable the said Proprietors and others to maintain the Publick worship of God with the greater cheerfulness & more ease amongst themselves, which they have done with the utmost alacrity (for the most part) ever since, and found unspeakable comfort therein. But forasmuch as the method for defraying the charge aforesaid hath hitherto been by a free subscription, which has had considerable Inconveniency attending it—some paying much more & some much less than their due Proportions, and Some few nothing at all, either there or elsewhere; and moreover your humble petitioners (upon serious consideration) earnestly desiring a full enjoyment of the Gospel ordinances amongst themselves, from a sincere aim at the glory of God and the Health of their immortal souls, do now most humbly supplicate your Excellency and Honours to grant them an Act of Incorporation for a Parish by the metes and Bounds mention'd in the aforesaid Parish Vote;—an exemplification of which properly authenticated is hereunto annex'd, with the full powers and authoritys of a Parish—excluding all those that belong to the Mill dam Parish by Law (that desire to be excluded) if by Law any such Parish there be.

Your Excellency and Honours are so well acquainted with the common arguments in such Petitions (viz.) The great distance from the Meeting-house; the vast difficulty of travel (especially for women & children; & more especially at some seasons of the year) that not more than one in five or six can go up to the house of God, and that therefore they are in danger of perishing for lack of vision; labouring under a Famine of the word, &c. that your Petitioners dont think it proper to essay any Illustrations on those common themes, but humbly take leave only to offer an observation or two for the further enforcing their request, viz.

1st That there are to the best of their knowledge Eighty families, (besides the Familys of six widows) one hundred & eight ratable heads & four hundred and fifty souls or thereabout within the bounds mentioned in the aforesaid vote.

N. B. There are half a dozen Familys or more consisting of thirty souls at least (not comprehended in the bounds above-said,) more commodiously situated to attend the Publick worship at the Plains Meeting-House than any where else.

2. That in the year 1727 (as they are informed) there was at Greenland but 92 ratable Polls, tho' that has been a Parish between 20 & 30 years; at Newington but 92 which has been a Parish near 20 years, at New Castle but 82; at New Market but 78; and at Rye but 72: By which it appears that the Reasons for making a Parish in the Southwest Part of Portsmouth are much greater with respect to numbers, than they

were for incorporating either of the Parishes aforesaid, & on all other accounts the same; and therefore as your Petitioners, cannot in the least doubt of your Excellency's & Honours religious disposition to promote the glory of God & good of souls, so neither can they suspect the success of a prayer supported by weightier Reasons, when so many Petitions of like sort, but with much lighter Reasons have so often prevailed. We are your Excellency's & Honours most dutiful & obedient servants and shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

P. S. May it consist with the wisdom of the Legislature, to put the Petitioners on the same footing with the Parish of Greenland in Regard to an Assembly Man & the Province Tax without further concern with Portsmouth.

Nathanel Peverly
 Thomas Snell
 James Libby
 Samson X Babb, his mark
 John Bruster
 John Marshal
 Hen. Sherburne, jun.
 Joseph Nelson
 Summers Clark
 Thomas Sherburne
 his
 John X Ham
 mark
 John Tomson
 Israel Hight
 Sampson Babb
 his
 Ricard X Babb
 mark
 James Rowe
 John Hight
 Charles X Brown, his mark.
 Mick. Abbot
 John Brown
 James X Benson, his mark.
 Joel X Wisem? mark
 Jams X Worson, mark
 Sam^l Sherburne
 Jos X Moroson, mark
 Nathaniel Sherburn.
 Matthew Nelson
 John Langdon

Henry Benet
 William Lang
 John X Simons, mark
 Holms, mark
 John Peaverly
 Richard X Honywal? mark
 Joseph Langdon
 Samuel Homes
 Thomas Cotton
 Henkman X Fose, mark
 Cesfo? X Noble, mark
 Nath^l Tuckerman
 Nicholas Norris
 Noah Sevy
 Thomas Read
 Jn^o Walker
 Anthony Rowe, mark.
 Sam^l Bruster
 Sam^l White
 Joshua Bruster
 John Sherburne.
 James Wood
 Henry Benson
 John Langmd
 Phillip Babb
 Jerimiah Holms
 John Holms
 Benjamin Holms
 Lazarus Nobel
 Israel Hunewell
 Sam^l Row
 Charles Frost
 [Several names appear to be
 cut off.]

Margaret Nelson
 Grace Row, widow,
 Wid. Sarah Tomson.

In Council March 8th 1732-3.

Read and unanimously voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill accordingly.

R. Waldron, Secy.

In the House of Representatives, March 9, 1732-3.

Read and Voted, that the within petition be referred, until the 3^d day of the next Sessions of the General Assembly, & that the Upper and lower Parrishes in the Town of Portsm^e be served with a copy of the Petition, and that so they may appear at the time above s^d then to shew reason if any they have why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.

George Walton, cl^r. Pro temp^r

March 10, 1732-33, Concurred

R. Waldron, Secy.

Same day consented to

J. BELCHER.

Petition relating to dividing the Common land in Portsmouth.

To his Excellencie Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Capt. Generall & Commander in Chief, in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of Newhamphshire, and the Hon^{ble} his Maj^{ties} Councill for said Province:

The humble Petition of Henry Sherburn Esq^r Ephraim Dennet Esq^r Joshua Pierce Esq^r and Mr. William Cotton for themselves and others, a Committee for the dividing the Common Land of the Town of Portsmouth, In behalfe of the Proprietors of the said Common Land, most humbly *Sheweth*:

That in the yeare 1699, The^r was at a legall Town meeting held at Portsmouth a vote Past for the dividing the common Land of the said Town amongst the then Inhabitants, and persons as a Committee for Doing the same then appointed, and from Time to Time continued of which Com^{tees} the above are the Major part: which Committees from Time to Time ever since (when not obstructed by the Indian Warr,) has continued to lay out the said Comon lands to all such as had Right, and such Rights quietly enjoyed untill the year of our Lord 1716; Since which yeare Sundry of the Proprietors of the Comon land about Greenland adjoining to the town of Streatham have been molested and hindered from improving their Rights by the Inhabitants of said Town of Stretham, and several Law-suits commenced which is the cause of great trouble & charge &c. all which happened by the misaplying the Grant or Charter of the Town of Stretham, as y^e Pettition^{rs} humbly presumes, which they humbly sheweth happens as hereafter exprest:

On the 10th day of January 1715-16, sundry persons calling themselves the Inhabitants of Squamscot Pattent (Tho' there never was any such * Pattent) Petitioned the the Hon^{ble}

* This is incorrect; unless there is a confusion of terms—making a distinction between the Squamscott and Hilton's Point Patent. See and compare Prov. Pap. Vol. I. pp. 221-224, and General and Hist. Reg. 1s70, where the Hilton's Point Patent a *has* Squamscott, is printed in full. Ed.

George Vaughan Esq^r then Liv^t Governor and Comander in Chiefe in and over this Province of New hampshire to be set off as a Township; and therein prescribs bounds; The said Liu^t Governor with the advice of his Maj^{ties} Councill did, on the twentyth day of March then next following, grant the Petition and gave them a Charter according to the Bounds prescribed (with the exceptions of fower families,) as by the Charter may be seen.

Now those persons that called themselves the Inhabitants of Squamscot Patent Did live upon a tract of land that its usually said was granted by the Councill of Plim^o to one Edw^d Hilton and his Associates three miles into the Country from the Maine river going up to Exeter, and as such the Towns round about acknowledged them, and none ever interfered or claimed within the three miles from the Maine River south east into the country; and tho' all their land fell within the auntient bounds of the Town of Portsmouth, yet the Town Voted that three miles that Mr. Andrew Wiggans claimed should still be to him & his heirs &c. And the grandfather of the familly of the present Wiggans (upon the marriage of Son to the Daughter of Gov^r Bradstreet) made a Deed of Gift of that part of the said Hilton's Patent which he claimed (being three miles square) and called it Squamscot. the bounds of which Deed were only three miles south-east from Exeter River, and no Dispute happened till since the grant to the Town of Stretham as aforesaid. In running the Bound of which according to the said Charter (at the West end of the Wiggan's grant) by an advantage of a Southerly turn of Exeter River, the south bound of Stratham (against the Wiggan's Grant is fower miles very neare upon a South east point) at the west end of Portsmouth bounds and they claime that land between the Charter line and the afores^d Wiggan's Right and so to a Gore at the easterly end, and say that it was confirmed to them by virtue of the Grant by Liv^t Governor Vaughan to Stretham aforesaid; Which notion had and Dos govern much with our country juries; So that those persons that have their Comon Rights laid out between the lines aforesaid are in a perpetual controversie and law suits.

For Remedy whereof

Your Petitioners for themselves and the others of their Society as a Comittee and in behalfe of the Proprietors of the Comon Land of Portsmouth, most humbly prays your Excellency & the Hon^{bl} Councill, That as the Grant for the Town of Stretham was made only by that Hon^{bl} Board, That an Explanation be made of Stretham charter (that as Wee humbly presume) that this Board in that Grant, Did not att all medle or pretend to alter the Right of the soile; and alsoe Wee pray that this Hon^o Board would alsoe appoint a Comittee of In-

different persons to run the Dividing line between Portsmouth and that Deed of Thomas Wiggans Esq^r to his son Andrew Wiggans; The Town having no Dispute beyond the Bounds of that Deed which Deed is conformable to the Patten of Edward Hilton and associates aforesaid; And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

HEN: SHERBURNE
EPHR^m DENNET
JOSH: PEIRCE.

Portsmouth, Jan. 3^d, 1733-4.

Petition of the South Parish in Portsmouth.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Esq. Governor & Commander in chief in & over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Court convened, the 31st Day of January, Anno Dom. 1739.

The Petition of James Clarkson, Esq^r Thom^s Wright & Daniel Pierce Merch^{ts} all of Portsm^o in said Province, a Committee of the South Parish in Portsm^o afores^d, and as agents for & in behalf of the said Parish:

Humbly sheweth:

That there has been for some considerable time a difference subsisting between the North and South Parishes in said Town respecting the settlement of their Parishioners and the removal of certain persons from one Parish to the other & the Taxes to be paid by such persons toward Parish charges:

That sundry persons that have removed from the attendance of the Public worship in the North Parish afores^d and have settled themselves or constantly attended the said worship in the South Parish afores^d for some considerable time past, have notwithstanding been rated or taxed toward the charges of the said North Parish, & so in consequence of such removal have been obliged to pay both;

That the greater part of those who have so removed have been induced thereto by a Prospect of Better accommodations for themselves & families in the meeting-house they have removed to, and think it a hard case that they must purchase those accommodations by paying a double Tax;

That those persons have not been able (tho' it has been several times requested) to obtain a regular dismission from the said North Parish, nor have the Parishes at any meetings, or by their delegates (tho' Essays have been made) been able to come to any terms of composition relating to the Premises;

That the said South Parish conceives the Rule & Method by which new parishioners have been & still are to be settled in said Parishes, is such as gives the said North Parish (which is much the superior for numbers & riches of its Inhabitants) greatly the advantage, and that therefore it is highly reasonable that a new and more equitable Rule for that purpose should be establish'd & the former suspended.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray that a Law may be now enacted agreeable to a Vote of the Honorable the House of Representatives for said Province, of the 15th of Nov^r 1738. Respecting the premises (and herewith exhibited) excepting only a clause in said vote Relating to such young men as should settle on the Estates of their fathers &c. But that the settlement of such persons should be determined by the same Rule therein proposed for the settling of other young men in the said Parishes & strangers that shall come to settle in the said Town; or that such other methods or Rules of fixing Parishioners in the said Parishes may be established as this Hon^{ble} Court in their great Wisdom & Goodness shall think equitable & just between the said Parishes.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JAMES CLARKSON
THOMAS WRIGHT
D. PIERCE.

Feby. the first 1739. In the House of Representatives:

The within Petition Read & voted, that the Petitioners serve the Wardens of the North Parish in Portsmouth with a copy of this Petition at the Petitioners charge, and that they appear to be heard Tuesday the 12th Curr^t to shew cause why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted, if the General Court is then sitting; if not then to appear the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next Sessions.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^{nt}

In Council, Feb^r 6th 1739-40.

Read and concurr'd.

Rich^d Waldron, Secy.

I assent to the above votes,

Feb^r 6, 1739-40.

J. BELCHER.

In the House of Representatives, Feb^r 7th A. D. 1739-40. Upon reconsidering the above Vote of the House: Voted, That the Petitioners serve the Wardens of the North Parish in Portsmouth with a copy of this Petition, and the above order.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^{nt}

In Council, Feb^r 8th 1739.

Read & Concurr'd.

Rich^d Waldron, Secy

Feb^r 8th 1739-40.

Assented to

J. BELCHER.

In Council, Feb^r 15th 1739-40,

Read, and on motion made by the Respondents, and the Petitioners being heard in answer to the 8^d motion,

Voted That the consideration of the Petition be suspended till y^e next session of the general Court
R. Waldron, Secy.

Remonstrance of Portsmouth Selectmen.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, In General Court Convened, Jan^y 31, 1739.

The Remonstrance of the selectmen of the town of Portsmouth in said Province, *Humbly Shews*

That the Laws of the Province that relate to the admission of new Inhabitants into any of the Towns in this Province & the removal of such persons as obtrude themselves upon the Towns, are very defective in many Respects, so that the good purposes that were even designed by those Laws cannot be attain'd:

That the said Town of Portsmouth from its situation is greatly exposed to the entrance of strangers by sea, from which Quarter many enter & become Inhabitants even in spite of all opposition & often a charge to the town; for the prevention whereof there is no effectual Provision in the said Laws:

That Laws well calculated to remove or Prevent the said Inconveniency would certainly be of general Benefit & would serve the Interest of every town in the Province & the larger Towns in a more especial manner:

Wherefore your Remonstrants beg leave humbly to propose that the Laws already in force Relating to the premises might be perus'd by this Hon^{ble} Court, or such as they shall appoint to that service & such an additional Act speedily enacted as will be necessary for the purposes afores^d

Your Remonstrants beg leave further to observe:

That the Town of Portsm^o afores^d in many places of it being built in a compact manner and in some places there are old houses with broken chimneys, ovens &c. and the dwelling in these houses especially in the winter season greatly exposes them to the danger of fire, by which, if they should be consumed whole streets might meet with the same fate.

Wherefore they humbly pray that a Law may now be made authorizing some officer or officers upon request to view such old houses & to determine whether they are in a condition fit to be occupied as Dwelling Houses; and if not to order the

repair thereof at the expense of the Proprietor (so far as shall be necessary for the common safety) or to remove the occupants of such houses, or to take such other measures as this Hon^{ble} Court shall in their great wisdom & goodness think proper in a case of such Importance; for which your Remonstrants, as in duty bound (in behalf of their Principals) will ever pray &c.

WM PARKER	} Selectmen
SAM ^r BRUSTER	
WM BENNET	
THO ^s WIBIRD	
D. PEIRCE	

In the House of Representatives, Feb^r the 14th 1739-40.

The within Mem^o read, and Voted, That Mr. Hunking Wentworth & Capt. Edw^d Hall be a Committee of this House to joyn with such as the Hon^{ble} Council shall appoint to draw up an act relating to the admission of Town Inhabitants; and appointing Committees (or officers) relating to old defective Houses & Chimneys; and for regulating the poor, and putting out such children apprentices as are likely to become chargeable to any town or precinct, or whose parents do not take due care of them.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

In Council Feb^r 19, 1739-40.

Read and Concurred, and Joshua Peirce & Theo^r: Atkinson Esq^r appointed to joyn in the service above.

Rich^d Waldron, Sec^r.

Same day assented to,

J. BELCHER.

Answer to a Petition relating to the choice of James Clarkson, Esq., as representative.

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives for the Province of New Hampshire, met in General Assembly, Dec^r 31st 1745.

The Answer of the Selectmen of the Town of Portsmouth in said Province, to the Petition of sundry persons respecting the late choice of James Clarkson Esq^r to be one of the Representatives of said Town in General Assembly:—

May it please this Hon^{ble} House—As it was the order of the House that we should be served with a copy of the Petition afores^d we presume 'twas with Design to hear what we had to say in answer to it, tho^r not express'd in the order, & therefore beg leave to answer the said petition in the following method, viz: First, to represent the case as we apprehend the truth of the facts to be, & then to shew why the prayer of

this petition ought not to be granted, for which we pray the patience, attention, & impartial consideration of this Hon^{bl} House.

The case was thus :—Pursuant to a precept to us, Wee gave notice to the voters in the usual manner of the time, place & occasion of holding a meeting, which was duly attended; a moderator chosen & then the votes in writing bro't in for a Representative, which were fairly put into a Box standing before the moderator & clerk, by the voters passing by man by man. When all were bro't in, the votes were turned out on a table & counted by the moderator & Clerk. It appeared there were only two candidates, viz. James Clarkson & Joshua Peirce Esq^{rs}. In conducting the whole affair thus far, there was not the least appearance of any disorder or unfair practice. When the counting of the votes was finished & the number of votes for each candidate was known to some, tho' not declared by the Moderator, some of the voters on the side of the Lowest number being disappointed in their expectation, declared their Dissatisfaction, that there was some mistake, & thereupon a Poll was demanded. Here we must observe, all was quiet & still, not the least Dissatisfaction expressed till it was plain how the vote was, & indeed the disparity left no room for doubting, for one of the gentlemen had 114, the other but 81 votes. When the Poll was demanded, the Moderator had recourse to the Law, which gives it. Upon which every person present had free liberty of reasoning & constructing as he tho't fit, & after much reasoning and consultation upon it, the Moderator declared his opinion. That he apprehended the Demandants had no right to a Poll upon the Law & Circumstances of the case & therefore denied, for which he gave his reasons with the denial. This is a brief but true State of the case as we apprehend; and whether this or that made by the Petitioners is Right, will best be discovered upon the evidence.

We come now to the prayer of the Petition, & say it ought not to be granted for the following reasons: First—Because it has neither Law nor Reason to support it; and therefore in the next place, the granting of it would be an infringement upon the legal Rights of the voters & deprive them of their just Liberties & Privileges; And Lastly, It would be an act of Injustice—all which may be easily evinced to the satisfaction of every unprejudiced Judgment.

To the first of these—that the prayer of this petition has neither Law nor Reason to support it:—This is a direct negation of what the Petitioners say, and may be made out very clearly as we conceive by considering of the only Law they can be supposed to refer to, which is an Act entitled, "*An Act for the better regulating Town & Proprietary meet-*

ings, of the Province Laws": By which this controversy ought to be determined; and if this Law is not with the Petitioners, they have none of their Side in this case. In order to know this, every reasonable man will think it necessary to find out the true Intent & meaning of this act; for it is a maxim, — an indisputable Rule — in such cases, *That the meaning & intention of the Law, is the Law itself*; and to find out that it is a certain & undisputable rule among those whose business lays this way & who are thoroughly versed in the Interpretation of Acts & Laws, That the Preamble of an Act is always first to be consulted; as it is declarative of the reasons of making of it, & the mischief designed to be remedied or prevented by it, & therefore is compared to a Lanthorn hanging in an Entry of an House by which we discover the rightway in. Now the Preamble of this Act says, *By reason of the Disorderly carriage of some persons in such meetings the Business thereof is much retarded & obstructed*: for preventing whereof it is enacted that a moderator shall be chosen to govern & regulate the Business of the meeting; and, *when it shall happen that any matters remain doubtfull after a vote, the Moderator is directed to Decide it by the Poll, if seven or more desire it*: This is all that relates to this affair in the whole Act. Now this being the first paragraph in the Act it must in reason be supposed the Preamble contains a special reference to the things mentioned in this Paragraph; for to suppose a preamble to an Act which has no reference to any thing thereby enacted, and to suppose it has none to the first & principal paragraph, is equally absurd: And therefore we can't but think that by the disorderly carriage mentioned in the Preamble was intended such as rendered the vote when passed Doubtfull & uncertain, for the removing of which a Poll might be had; — and if this be just reasoning, the consequence is, When there is no disorderly carriage or none detected, no disturbance or interruption given to the affairs of the meeting; when there is no apparent cause of doubt nor Rational cause of suspicion, no Poll was to be granted. But to come to the enacting clause: To find out any meaning we ought always to consider the mark he aims at, the main point he has in view. This is also given As a Rule to find out the mind of the Legislature & to apply it in the case before us: — What was the point the Legislators had in view in forming this clause? It is plain if we take their words in the same sense which other people use them, it was to take away all cause of Doubt how a vote was carried; & the restraining Disorders was with a special view to that, as they give Occasion of Doubting; for the words are, & *when it shall happen that any Matters remain Doubtful after*

The first of these is the question of the origin of the human race. It is generally admitted that the human race is descended from a common ancestor, but the question of the exact nature of this ancestor is still a matter of debate. Some authorities believe that the human race is descended from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the world, while others believe that the human race is descended from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the world.

The second of these questions is the question of the development of the human race. It is generally admitted that the human race has developed from a common ancestor, but the question of the exact nature of this development is still a matter of debate. Some authorities believe that the human race has developed from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the world, while others believe that the human race has developed from a common ancestor which was a mixture of the characteristics of the various races of the world.

a. vote, then a Poll is to be had &c. The words are express in case of Doubt: Do they mean also that there shall be a Poll where there is no doubt? when the thing is already as plain as it can be by polling: Surely this Law did not design every thing should be Determined by the Poll, if that had been intended it would have said so. But as the Petitioners would have it, it must be in all cases if required, for the thing is always either plain or doubtfull; the Legislators mention & limit the Remedy to a particular case only: But this way of interpreting supposes they intended something directly contrary to the import of their expressions, and the design they had in view, that is. to comprehend all cases. By such a method any law may be made to mean any thing its interpreters would have it mean;—and the consequence of construing this Act in this manner, is to make Polling necessary in all cases at every Town or Parish meeting, where there are seven persons against the vote, which is an inconveniency which the Petitioners are not well aware of, & is greater than any man would readily imagine:—for by the juggle & contrivance which designing & disaffected persons might then practice, this very scheme for making things certain would be a means of destroying itself, embarrassing all such affairs & introduce occasions of perpetual jangle & controversy. But we take the truth of the case here really to be this: This law was designed to reduce the usual method of voting by lifting up the hand, to a more certain method of decision when there should be occasion, viz. by Polling & was never designed to be used where the voting is by Ballot or writing, which is a Modern way not used among us when this law was made & is much more certain than polling; and to correct that by this would be like correcting a man's countenance by his picture, or to make an original peice more certain by a copy,—that is, in plain English, to amend the better by the worse.

We humbly conceive it will not be said, or if said will not be regarded, that this law was intended to satisfy everybody's doubts who should pretend to them. tho' they could shew no Rational grounds for them, or because they may suggest a possibility of deception without pointing out any thing in particular; these are such wild and loose objections as deserve no reply: for by the same way any thing may be made doubtfull, & to argue from possibility to reality, deserves no attention;—those who do it claim pity, but no answer. As to the reason of the thing or the nature of such affairs, we can't think reason would ever have directed to the tryal of voting by writing, by Polling the voters. We have the more reason to think so because we don't find that among other people no less reasonable than ourselves when they determine matters by written

votes, they have not lit upon this happy method of polling to try the other by in case of dispute; At this day the Jurys attending the Courts in Westminster Hall are elected by Ballot, but no Polling in case of Dispute. If they cant tell what is done, the way is to do it over again until they can; so in choosing of Parliament Men, the regulation of corporation affairs, &c. which is done by Voting but no Polling: & to come nearer home in the neighbouring Govern^t Jurys, Registers, Representatives, &c. are chosen by ballot, but there is nothing of the way we are speaking of in doubtfull cases. Now if Reason or the nature of the thing directed to this way, it is strange that other peoples Reason had not lead them into it; but as we don't find it has, we conclude it is not a dictate of Reason but an instituted method introduced & subsisted by the Provincial Law. Reason would have directed to several methods more certain than Polling, as writing down the voters names, setting their names to their votes &c. And if this be so, & that Law does not reach the case of the meeting now under consideration, then it necessarily follows, that to grant this Petition would be an infringement upon the Legal Rights of the voters & deprive them of their just Libertys and priviledges in this affair. This is so plain & so necessarily follows, that little need be said to it; for if the Law don't teach nor Reason oblige to it, then to vacate what the people have legally done is an infringement upon those Rights by which it was done, to deny them of the man that was chosen to represent them is depriving them of their Liberty in that respect, which is to choose for themselves, & taking away a valuable privilege of keeping the man they have once chosen; & hence it follows that it would be an Act of Injustice; these things which would be thus broke in upon & taken from the people, are of more consequence really to them than a part of their substance. It has cost Englishmen dear every body knows to purchase & maintain these & such like privilidges, & therefore to deny the free exercise of them, which is a Denial in effect, is the highest Injustice. It is no answer to say the people have a new choice; for besides the loss of time spent in this case, when a new choice is made may not that be set aside in the same manner & so on till they choose, not according to their own inclination, but the man they might be directed to. This would be like sending out a Jury till they find such a verdict as the court likes. Upon the whole we humbly conceive, to grant the prayer of this Petition signed by twelve persons only out of eighty-one, & one of those not an inhabitant of the town, to set aside an Election honestly, fairly & Legally made, upon such grounds, because a motion was denied that was made out of season, after those who made it saw the affair was determined

contrary to their desire and which was made not from any cause of doubt but only dissatisfaction, & which they would never have made, had every thing but done just as it was, only the vote been as they would have had it; Nay, but would rather have cryed out upon it as unjust, illegal & absurd, should such a motion have been made; We say to make void this election under all these circumstances, we apprehend would have a very extraordinary effect & is what the wisdom & justice of this Hon^{ble} House will not suffer us to fear.*

SAM^l HART
NATH^l MENDUM } Selectmen
MARK LANGDON }

Portsm^o Dec^r 31, 1745:

*Deed from Theodore Atkinson and Others of their Rights
in certain Townships &c.*

TO ALL PEOPLE, to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Know ye, That we, Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wibird, John Moffat, Mark Hunking Wentworth, Samuel Moore, Jotham Odiorne jun., Joshua Pierce, Nathaniel Meserve, George Jeffry, Jun., and John Wentworth, jun., all of Portsm^o in y^e Province of New Hampshire in New England, & Thomas Wallingford of Somersworth & Thomas Packer of Greenland, both of s^d Province aforesaid, Diverse good causes & considerations us hereunto moveing, have remised, Released & Quit claimed & by these Presents for ourselves each and every of us & all & each & every of our heirs, Executors & Administrators Respectively, Do Remise, Release & forever Quit claim unto y^e Inhabitants & proprietors of y^e severall Towns, Precincts, Parishes, Villages & Districts hereafter named, lying & being within y^e Province aforesaid, viz. Portsmouth, Dover, Exeter, Hampton, Gosport, Kingstown, Derry, Chester, Nottingham, Barrington, Rochester, Canterbury, Bow, Chichester, Epsom, Barnstead, with all & every of y^e Districts, Parishes, Precincts & villages within y^e s^d Townships, any & every of them, & to their successors, Heirs & Assigns forever Respectively in their seisin and Possession now being as the s^d Townships, Parishes, Districts, Precincts & Villages are limited, bounded & described by y^e Acts, orders, customs & usages of y^e s^d Province, with all & singular y^e Estate, right, title, Inheritance, claim & demand of us & each & every of us of in & unto y^e same & every part thereof to us in any manner belonging, Either to Houses, Lands, Rivers, woods, mines, minerals & appurtenances whatsoever, Excepting & Reserving to ourselves & such of us & each of us our Respective Heirs & assigns, all & each of our several & Respective rights, Titles, Inheritance & Possession which we heretofore had in common or in severalty as Inhabitants or proprietors of houses & Lands within any of the Towns, Precincts, Parishes, Districts & Villages afore s^d in the same manner as tho' the above Release had never been made: *To have & To hold*, the above Remised & Released Premises with all y^e Priviledges & appurtenances to y^e same in any manner belonging, to them, y^e said Inhabitants & proprietors, their several & respective successors, Heirs & assigns for ever, according to their sev-

* See Proceedings of the House on this case in Prov. Pap. Vol. V. pp. 334, 335, 402, 409. ED.

eral & respective Tenures, Grants, Priviledges & possessions, excepting: as before excepted.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & seals y^e Thirty first day of July, Anno Domini, 1746, in y^e twentieth year of y^e reign of King George y^e Second: &c.

Sign'd, Seal'd and delivered, after the words (of us & each & every of us) were interlin'd.

In Presence of us, executed by all except Tho' Packer Esq. before
Joshua Gilman
Noah Emery.

Sign'd, Seal'd and deliver'd by Thomas Packer, Esq^r in presence of
Richard Hart
Noah Emery.

Theo' Atkinson	(S)	Josh ^s Peirce	(S)
R. Wibird	(S)	Nath ⁱ Meserve	(S)
John Moffat	(S)	Geo. Jeffrey, Jun.	(S) ¹
Mark H ^g Wentworth	(S)	John Wentworth, jun	(S)
Sam' Moore	(S)	Thomas Wallingford	(S)
J. Odiorne, Jun.	(S)	Tho ^s Packer,	(S)

Prov. of } Portsm^o July 31st 1746. Then Theodore Atkinson,
New Hamp^r } Richard Wibird, John Moffatt, Mark Hunking Wentworth, Jotham Odiorne jun., Joshua Peirce, Nathⁱ Meserve, Geo. Jaffrey, Jun. John Wentworth, Jun. & Thomas Wallingford, above named acknowledged the foregoing Instrument to be their free act & Deed before me

Pierse Long, Just. Peace

Prov. of New Hamp^r

Portsm^o August 23, 1746. Then personally appeared Sam^l Moore & Thos. Packer Esq^r & acknowledged the above Instrument to be their free Act & Deed.

Before Pierse Long, Jus. Peace

Prov. of New Hamp^r

A true Copy from Lib. 31, Fol. 175, Exam'd this 30th June 1756.

D. Peirce, Rec^d

Petition of Portsmouth Selectmen about a Pest-house.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General; Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly convened the 23^d day of Feby. 1747.

The Humble Petition of the Selectmen of Portsmouth in said Province for the current year, *shews* :

That your Petitioners in the summer past have had the Building of a Public Pest House under consideration and had fixed upon a certain Island near the Pool commonly called Anthony's Island as the most convenient place near to which Vessels might conveniently perform Quarantine, & Persons sick with any infectious Distemper might be safely kept both with respect to themselves & others.

That the property of the said Island could not be purchased but at more than double the real value, as your Petition^{rs} conceive, advantage being taken of the supposed necessity of the case, whereby the grant of the sum made by the General Assembly would have been expended (or near it) only for the land: That the necessity of such an house grows greater every year, & the charge of purchasing a proper place & building suitable places for the reception of the sick & those whom it may be necessary to remove, will be considerably more than it appear'd to be when the said grant was made; and as such places are for the Benefit of the whole Province, Your Petitioners pray that a further grant may be made for that purpose; That (as the owners of the Land which may be fixed upon, will probably raise their demands upon the occasion) three or more indifferent suitable persons may be appointed to value and appraise the said Island, or other place that may be chosen, under Oath, & to make Return to some Magistrate or Judicatory, who shall administer Oath, & that the owner or owners thereof may be obliged to take the sum so stated, and the appraisors ordered to make Return describing the Place so appraised & that being recorded in the Province Records with the Oaths of the appraisers, may vest the fee of the Land so appraised & described in the Province, & Divest the owners thereof, (without the formality of Executing a Deed or Deeds, which may be attended with difficulty;) and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

SAM ^l HART	} Selectmen
NATH ^l MENDUM	
MARK LANGDON	

In Council, March the 8th 1747.

Read & voted, That a Committee of both Houses be Immediately appointed to take under consideration the subjects matter of the within petition & report thereon as soon as may be.

Theodore Atkinson, Secy.

Ordered to be sent down for concurrence.

Answer to a Petition of Clement March for annexing certain lands to Greenland.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General, Govern^r & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, May 10th 1748.

The Answer of the Town of Portsmouth to the Petition of Clement March of Greenland in said Province, Esq^r praying

to have certain Lands purchased by him, lying in said Portsmouth, annexed to Greenland aforesaid :

First, There is no reason for diminishing the Rateable Estate of said Town & lessening the Extent thereof, to enlarge the Parish of Greenland, but quite contrary, for the Annual charges of said Town for Schools, Poor &c. is more than Double in proportion to the Polls & Estates, than the annual charge of Greenland.

2^d. The Reason given by the Petitioners for Annexing the Lands mentioned, to Greenland, is, that they lye contiguous to his other Lands which are in Greenland, & so most convenient for him to have it so ; But why most convenient ? There is no Reason but only the Rates in Greenland are not so high as in Portsmouth, for as to any other advantage it is not conceivable : the situation of the Land & all other circumstances will be just the same, whether they belong to Greenland or Portsmouth, excepting the article of Rates ; and if that is the motive to ask this favour, that alone shows it ought not to be granted ; because it shows that Portsmⁿ has greater charges in proportion than Greenland, & therefore more need of Rateable Estate. Besides, what is there in the Petitioner's case that is peculiar, & will not be every man's case who shall ever purchase Lands in the Town if he lives near or upon the line in another Town or Parish all around ; or indeed, which will not happen in any other Town thro' the Province. For, may not every purchaser under like circumstances, ask the same favour to have his lands annexed that place which pays the lowest Taxes ; and where will this end ? There is one Dearborn who owns Lands in Greenland, Stratham & Hampton, which lye contiguous, as the Petitioner's does : May not he with equal Reason come & pray that all his lands may be annexed to that place he likes best, & will there not be the same conveniency to him as in the case of the present Petitioner ? and so of many others. It is a rule to be observed with respect to Petitioners, that when any thing is asked which makes way for every person, or an indefinite Number to ask the like,—when the thing ask'd is a mere matter of favour, and no principle of justice or equity to enforce it,—There, in such cases it ought not to be granted. The present Petition is rather against Justice & Equity ; it amounts really to no more than this : that the Petitioner may hereafter be exempted from paying half or some part of the Taxes which the Law imposes on him ; and there are many others ready to ask the like favour ; and then some others must pay the more : and can it be said to be just and right to grant a favour to one to the prejudice & Injury of another ? Wherefore as the Town of Portsmouth is a Sea Port continually exposed to strangers & many extraordi-

nary charges, the extent ought by no means to be lessened; and as several others are in like case of the petitioner who will in all probability follow his example in case he succeeds, whereby the charges of said Town will fall so much the heavier on those who remain, 'tis humbly hoped you will see cause to deny the prayer of this Petition.

SAM^L HART, } in behalf of the
 } Selectmen.
 WM. PARKER } agent for
 } s^d Town.

Petition for a Lottery to pave the streets in Portsmouth.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander-in-chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly conven'd, the 16th day of Octob^r 1759.

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of Portsmouth in said Province *Shews* :—

That your Petitioners apprehend it to be very necessary that the principal Streets in said Town (which are now much us'd & are narrow) shou'd be Pav'd, especially where the Public Business occasions the greatest concourse of People: That this wou'd be a work of very considerable expence, and considering the annual charges of the town for support of the Poor (which by the situation it is often oblig'd to receive) more than any other Town in the Province, with other incidental charges, the Inhabitants cou'd not well sustain a Tax for this purpose at Present ;—

That works of this & the like nature are annually carried into execution in other Places by Public Lotteries, and much money from this as well as other places in the Province is by the adventures of Particular persons carried away & made contributory to the Designs of those Lotteries;

Your Petitioners therefore think it may be prudent to take advantage of this disposition of the People & Direct it to some Public use & General service among ourselves.

Wherefore, they Humbly Pray that they may have leave to set up a Public Lottery to raise a sum of money for paving the Streets aforesaid, to be under the Regulation & management of Persons to be stated & appointed in a Bill for that end, and that they may have leave to bring it in accordingly; and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

H. Wentworth
 D. Peirce

John Moffat
 John Sherburne

John Newmarch
 Daniel Rogers
 Charles Treadwell
 Jacob Treadwell
 John Penhallow
 Saml Penhallow
 Saml Sherburne
 Clement Jackson
 Saml Wentworth
 John Griffith
 Richard Champney
 John Gardner
 John Grant
 John Beck
 George Boyd
 Danl Jackson
 Sam Griffith
 Nathl Mendum
 W. Clagett
 James Stoddley
 Benjamin Welch
 Thos Wibird
 Joshua Brackett
 Joseph Alcock
 William Pearson
 Henry Rust
 Charles Banfill
 Solomon Loud
 Gregory Pursell
 Geo: Jaffrey
 Will. Temple
 Jno. Nelson
 Danl Fowle
 Nathl Treadwell, jun.

Jotham Rindge
 S. Livermore
 Nathl Adams
 Nathl Peirce
 John Wentworth
 Damaris Wheelwright
 Jonathan Warner
 George Libbe
 Danl Rindge
 George Meserve
 Saml Hart
 Benja Mackay
 Thomas Parker
 Saml Frost
 Jno. Parker
 Joseph Buss
 John Cutt
 Humpy Furnell
 Thos Hart
 Charles Hight
 Hy Apthorp
 Peter Man
 Thos Landell
 John Hart
 Saml Cutt
 E. Russell, jr
 James Dwyer
 John Wendell
 Theo. Atkinson, jun
 John Ley
 William Parker, &c. &c. &c
 Thos Packer
 Matthew Livermore

In Council Octo^r 30th 1759.

Read & Concurr'd & sent down to the Hon^{bl} Assembly.
 Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Oct^r 31, 1759.
 New Hamp^r } This Petition being read.

Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, Eod. die, read & concurr'd

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

Petition of Portsmouth against a Bridge at New Castle.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly convened, the 15th Day of Feb^r 1760.

The humble Petition of the Selectmen & agents of the Town of Portsmouth, *shews* :—

That your Petitioners have been informed that there is now lying before the Assembly a Bill for granting liberty to the Town of New Castle to set up a Lottery to raise money for building a Bridge a cross that Branch of Piscataqua River call'd Little Harbour, which your Petitioners apprehend if it should be effected will greatly Prejudice the said Town of Portsmouth, especially if done in the manner we are inform'd is design'd & begun; and as your Petitioners have been so lately inform'd of the said Bill they have not time to Reduce the Objections to be made to writing, and especially as there was no Public notice nor Liberty given for that purpose, they could not be prepared therewith, they humbly pray that they may in behalf of said Town be heard, to shew cause why the said Bridge shou'd not be built, especially in the unlimited manner proposed;—and they shall as in duty bound Pray &c.

SAM^l PENHALLOW
A. CLARKSON
WILLIAM KNIGHT
JOHN SHERBURNE
JOHN GRIFFETH.

Memorial for a bounty on fish, wheat, hemp, &c.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor and commander-in-chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, June 6th 1763.

The MEMORIAL of Sundry Inhabitants of Portsmouth and other places in said Province *shews* :—

That as the Business of taking, curing & carrying on the Fishery in this Province wou'd be of great advantage to the Province in general, and especially to the landed Interest, perhaps nothing cou'd sooner & more sensibly encourage & Promote that Business than the favour and regard of the Government, not only countenancing but granting a bounty on the same, in such manner & proportion as in their wisdom shall be judged convenient; for as that Business has been in a great measure neglected for some time & preparing for it is attended with considerable expence, & the issue & event not certain, most People who heretofore were ingaged in it, will be backward to resume it on the bare prospect of the advantage arising by it:

That it has been done in many instances by the wisdom of the British Parliament not only for introducing a new Branch

of Trade, or a new kind of Manufacture, but also for reviving & giving spirit to any thing of that Nature useful to the Public not wholly disus'd but much decay'd, as in particular on the Whale Fishery an additional Bounty of twenty shillings a Ton on the admeasurement of the ship, by Stat. 22 Geo. 2, was granted to the owners of the ships, on a preceding bounty of twenty shillings, before granted by the Stat. of 5 & 6 Geo. 2, &c. And many other instances might easily be given; For it is now become a maxim from long experience, that the Generality of the world must be counted to pursue their own Interest; And it is a well known Fact, how greatly the State of Ireland has been raised & improved within thirty years last past, by giving bountys & premiums to those who excelled in every kind of manufacture in use there,—which raised a spirit of emulation, in that way bro't arts & industry into credit & reputation & promoted the trade & wealth of the kingdom. The reason is so clear & strong in such cases that even in the New Province & settlement of Nova Scotia, the Government there has granted a Bounty of twelve pence sterling per Quintal on all Cod fish cured there; and in every Government encouragements in this way have not been wanting; That there is perhaps more necessity for such an encouragement in this Province, than in any other place that can be named, to raise something to ballance the large Importation annually made for some of the necessaries of life;—it appearing by the Custom House Book, that between March 1761 & June 1763, 180,865 Bushels of corn had been duly Entered imported here, besides adventures & small quantities not observed, by Coasters, &c. Add to this, the prodigious quantities of flower & great quantities of other provisions, by which means all the silver & gold which used to be current here is gone, or at least the greatest part, and the Bills of credit now current Depreciated as they wou'd not purchase our daily Bread, for it is certain the more limited any currency is & the fewer demands it will answer, the more the value will sink.

That a sufficient sum for the purpose aforesaid might be easily raised by an Excise on Spirituous Liquors, more especially on that enormous Quantity of rum imported, which by the entries aforesaid, it appears that more than three thousand eight hundred & twenty hogs heads have been in little more than two years, besides smaller parcels, tho't too inconsiderable to be entered, private adventures,—and many hogsheads annually of New England rum, carried up Merrimack & consumed in this Province; and it is well known to every one, that almost all the Profit of this trade is made by the Importation and consumption here; and how prejudicial to the substance, morals and health of the People such a large

consumption of spirit is, no one can readily conceive; and therefore it seems as necessary to prevent or lessen this growing mischief, as it was in time of war to Defend the people against the common Enemy, by whom perhaps fewer lives were annually destroyed;

That wheat, Hemp, Flax & other kinds of the Produce of the Field, wou'd doubtless be soon raised and bro't to such a degree of perfection, as would at least lessen our Importations & bring our Trade nearer to a ballance, if not turn it in our favour, if the Husbandman was suitably encouraged and some method taken to introduce a more profitable way of cultivation and Agriculture, than has yet been practised here, the Public wou'd soon find the advantage; And from the experience of others. we learn that nothing will prove more effectual to advance & promote such like improvements than Bounties and premiums given at first till those concerned find their account & encouragement from the Profit of the Business.

Wherefore your memorialists Pray you wou'd take the Premises under consideration and do therein as in your wisdom & goodness you shall upon the whole Judge will be best for the public advantage & emolument—and we shall ever pray, &c.

John Sherburne
Will^m Torrey
Wm. Parker
D. Peirce
Geo. Meserve
Daniel Rogers
Benj^a Odiorne
John Moffat
Thomas Packer, jun.
J. Wentworth
Dan^l Rindge
Wm. Whipple
Thos. Martin
Hugh Hall Wentworth
Jonathan Warner
George Boyd
Geo. Jaifrey
Wyseman Clagett
Joss. Frost
Hubartus Neal

A. R. Cutter
Tho^s Parker
Tho^s Parsons
John Wentworth
Tho^s Wibird
Nul Lamont
Jn^o Parker
Mark Hunking
Ichabod Clark
Philip Hooker
Samuel Moffat
James McDonough
Tho^s Tash
Peter Pearse
Jona. Lovewell
John Penhallow
Nath^l Adams
John Clark
Tim. Pope
Paul March

In Council, June 8th 1763.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.
T. Atkinson, Secy.

Province of }
New Hamp^{sh} } June 10th 1763.

The Committee appointed to consider the subject matter of the foregoing Petition, beg leave to Report as follows, viz. That when the Excise Act Pass'd by this House and Now before the Council shall be pass'd by the Hon^{ble} Council and Assented to by his Excellency We

think it adviseable that then a Bounty be given on fish, hemp, flax & wheat, to be paid out of the money Rais'd by s^d Excise.

Meshech Weare, on behalf of the Com^{tee}

This Report Entered June 15, 1763, & the House was prorogued the same day.

[NOTE. The MS. Papers which next follow, relate to an attempt to establish a PLAY HOUSE in Portsmouth, in June, 1762;—all which are printed in full, in Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 831–835, to which readers are referred. Ed.]

Petition of the Selectmen, &c., of Portsmouth, to hold Town meetings in the State House.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor and commander in chief, in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly convened, Decem^r 15th 1763.

The humble Petition of the Select men of Portsmouth in said Province & the Wardens of the first Parish in said Town, shews :

That it has been the usual practice to hold the meetings of said Town in the meeting House in said Parish, which has been long complained of by many in the Parish, not only as injurious to the property of particular Persons, by breaking down the seats, dirting the Pews and benches, & carrying away cushions & other injuries, but as a very indecent thing to make an house appropriated & consecrated to the worship of God, the scene for public civil affairs, where the warmest Disputes & Contentions often happen; and wou'd be so estimated by serious Persons of any Religion whatsoever; But especially since a very Large & commodious addition at a great expence of the Parish, has been lately made, the article of Injury is more evident & more frequent; and as the number of parishioners increase the complaint of indecency and Impropriety increases; Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that leave may be granted by a Resolve, that the said meetings of the Town of Portsmouth for the Purpose aforesaid, may be held in the State House, from time to time, and any damage occasioned thereby shall be repaired or made good by the Town—and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

H. WENTWORTH
CHANLEE TREADWELL }
Wardens. }

JOHN LANGDON
JOHN DENNET
SAM^l PENHALLOW } Select-
WILLIAM KNIGHT } men.

Another Petition on the same matter.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth,
New Hampshire } Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & Com-
mander in Chief in and over his Majes-
ty's aforesaid Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} his
Majesty's Council for said Province, & Hon^{ble} House of
Representatives in General Assembly convened, April 11th
1764.

The humble Petition of the Select men of Portsmouth in
the Province aforesaid, whose Names are hereunto subscribed,
Sheweth—

That the annual and other Town meetings for the said Town of Portsmouth have (for many years last past) been held in the North Meeting house there, which hath given offence to many of the Parishioners, who by means thereof have had their Pews dirtied and spoiled and who are also of opinion that the said Meeting house ought to be wholly set apart for the worship of Almighty God; and this hath lately produced no small contention :

That with a view to quiet the said contention and prevent any future offence. It was at the last annual meeting for the said Town, *Voted*, as follows, viz.

“ That the Selectmen be desired to Petition the General
“ Court at their next session for leave to hold their Town
“ meetings in the State House. And if the Prayer of their
“ Petition be granted, that the said selectmen be and are here-
“ by desired, to appoint their next Town meeting (the next
“ annual meeting included) to be held in said State House ;
“ And if they cannot obtain leave of the general Court as
“ aforesaid, Then to meet at the North meeting House as
“ usual.”

Which vote occasions this application to your Excellency and Honours; And your Petitioners to Pray that for the reasons aforesaid, the Selectmen of the said Town of Portsmouth for the time being may have leave, and be legally authorized by the General Court to hold their future Town meetings in the State House.

JOHN LANGDON
A. CLARKSON
JOHN DENNET
SAM^l PENHALLOW
WILLIAM KNIGHT.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, May 8th 1764.
New Hamp^r } This Petition being read

Voted, That the prayer of the within Petition be granted in the following manner; Viz. That the Town of Portsmouth have liberty of

holding their Town meetings for the future, in the lower room of the State House, provided the Town at their own Expense will finish in a decent and handsome manner the Room upon the lower floor of the State house finding all the materials for plastering, ceiling and whatever is necessary that the same may be finished in a workmanlike manner, and cause the same to be so finished in a Reasonable time.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

Portsmouth Petition in regard to certain election returns.

Province of } To the Honourable House of Representa-
New Hampshire } tives for said Province in General As-
sembly conven'd;—May 4th 1775.

The humble petition of the subscribers, freeholders in Portsmouth, in s^d Province, *Sheweth* :—

That before the last election of Representatives for this Province, Writs issued to several new Towns in said Province, which had not heretofore sent Representatives, to choose persons to represent them in General Assembly;—in consequence of which Writs, these towns did elect Representatives; And as there is no Legal Authority vested in any separate Branch or Branches of the Legislature of this government to issue such writs, we apprehend the exercise of such authority, therefore, not only unwarranted by the British Constitution & the Laws of this Province, but in its consequences subversive of both, and pregnant with many alarming evils (1).

Wherefore we being deeply sensible of the great importance of preventing so unconstitutional a procedure, most humbly pray that the honourable House may take into their wise and immediate consideration, whether the persons so chosen, are entitled to a seat there.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

H. Wentworth
Daul. Peirce
John Newmarch
Thos Hart
David Griffith
George Gains
George Hart
Elisha Hill
Mark Seavey
Jeremiah Libbey
Wm. Langdon
Benjamin Slade
Temple Knight
Benja Akerman
Saml Beck

Caleb Currier
Nah. Ward
Richd Salter
Edmund Coffin
John Marshall
James Clarkson
William Furnell
Saml Dalling
Saml Hale, jun
Jno Furnald
Wm. Whipple
Willm Pearnay
J. Brackett
H. Sherburne
John Grant

(1) See "Journals of the House," on the foregoing, in Prov. Pap. Vol. VII. pp. 373, 378, 383-385. Ed.

Jos. Allcock
 William Cotton
 Peter Man
 Mark Nelson
 Benja Mackay
 Jacob Sheafe, jun
 Saml Bowles
 David Call
 John Gregory
 Thos Prince
 Saml Jackson
 John Peirce
 Alexr Monson
 Giles Seaward
 E. Butler

John Furbur
 Benj. Patridge
 Reuben Snell
 Ephm Ham
 Geo. Turnar
 Peirse Long
 Joseph Bass
 James Grouard
 Robert Ham
 Joseph Akerman
 Saml Moses
 Theodore Moses
 Noah Peirce
 Nathaniel T. Griffith

POWNALL, IN VERMONT.

Petition.

Province of } To his Excellency Benjamin Wintworth,
 New Hampshire } Capt. Generall and Commander in Chief
 in and over his Majesties Province of New
 Hampsher in Newengland, and to the
 Hon^{ble} his majesties Council in the Same.

The Humbell petition of the Inhabitants of the township of POWNALL, *sheweth*: That we your petitioners mete the saturday of Jenerwarey Instant. In order to hold our Annual Meeting, to chuse town officers and to do as directed by Charter; But Esq^r Samwell Robinson's reading our Charter at the opening of s^t meeting. he being Moderattor, we found we had maid A mistake throo Ignorance off the day; therefore Durst not proceed to do the business of the day; so your humble petitioners pray, that this fault may be forgiven, and that for this present year your Excellency & Honours would be graciously plesed to appoint us the forthenth in febu^r or such a day as in your grate Wisdom and Goodness you shall see best. promising for the time to com to fully observe and walke by your Charter orders; And your petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray. Deated pownell the 18th Jene^r A. D. 1763.

Witness,

Isaac Vanarenem
 John Vanarenem
 Jabuz Worran
 Robert Watson
 Asa Alger

Silas Pratt
 Noah Pratt
 James Grover
 Elieser Mash
 Thomas Train.

Province of New Hampshire, Jan'y. 3^d 1763.

The within Petition read & considered, & the Prayer thereof granted & ordered that the second Tuesday in March be appointed the time for the Annual Town Meeting for the within mentioned town of Pownal for the choice of Town officers &c. agreeable to the Laws of this Province, and that the Charter for said Town & the record thereof be accordingly altered.

Read & concurred

T. Atkinson, Jun. Secy

NOTE.—There is an evident discrepancy in the above dates. ED.

PUTNEY, IN VERMONT.

Petition for a Grant of Land.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General and Governor in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire &c. And to the Honorable his Majesties Council of s^t Province:

The Petition of Josiah Willard and others humbly sheweth; That your Excellency's Petitioners are desirous of having his Majesties Grant of a Township of Land of y^e contents of six miles square on y^e westerly side of Connecticut River, at a place called y^e Greate Meadow adjoining to y^e Township of Westminster at y^e Northerly End of the Land called y^e Equivalent Land in the Province of New Hampshire, as your Excellency's Petitioners shall in duty bound ever pray.

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Josiah Willard
Moses Wright, jun.
John Armes
Nathan Willard
Lois Butler
John Peirce
Joseph Ashley
John Moor
Wilder Willard
Oliver Willard
Thomas Whiting
Daniel Adams
Joseph Baker
Timothy Baker
Isaac White
John White
Benja White
James Clemmens

Thomas Hill
Henry Hill
James Hews
James Hews, jun.
Francis Bowls
Isaac Bowls
John Bowls
James Tilston
John Newel
Samuel Sparhawk
Samuel Sparhawk, jun.
Jeremiah Hall
Samuel Hall
William Smeed
Prentice Willard
Joseph Ashley (1)
Thomas Chamberlain (1)
Thomas Prentice

(1) These two names have a X before them ED.

James Allen, jun
Jonathan Hammond
Elnathan Blood
Amasa Parker
Ephraim Adams
Isaac Powers
Robert Fletcher
Jonathan Hubbard

Josiah Willard, Jr.
Robert Usher
John Usher
Jonathan Cummings
Thomas Parker
Elias Alexander
Richard Wibird
Theodore Atkinson.

RAYMOND.

[Raymond, formerly belonging to the town of Chester, was incorporated as a Parish, 9 May, 1764. Ed.]

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii Magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Quarto.

An Act for Erecting a New Parish within the Township of Chester in this Province:

Whereas at a Town meeting held at Chester on the twenty-Sixth day of January 1763. it was granted & Voted that a part of said Township commonly call'd Free Town described in said Vote, might be incorporated into a new Parish (as far as their consent was necessary) and it appearing to be convenient considering the situation of the Inhabitants;

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Governo^r Council and Assembly, That there be and hereby is a new Parish constituted, Erected and Incorporated there, by the following Bounds namely, Beginning at the North East corner of Chester upon the head line of Epping at a maple tree being a boundary between Chester and Nottingham, then runs south twenty nine degrees West. bounding partly on said Epping & partly on Brentwood, to the South East corner of the Lot Number'd thirty in said Chester, as may appear by Records of the Proprietors of Chester, then West North West so far as to contain all the old Hundred Acre Lots so called in said Township, then North twenty Nine Degrees East to the South East corner of Candia, then by & joining upon Candia to the Line of Nottingham upon that side & by that Line to the Maple Tree where it begins; and that the same Parish be called, Incorporated & Named the Parish of RAYMOND; And all the Polls and Estates within the limits aforesaid are hereby exonerated and Discharged of & from all Duties, Taxes & Assessments (excepting what is hereafter mentioned & excepted) in & to any other place or part of said Town and are hereby Invested & Enfranchised with all common Privileges which other Parishes have & legally hold, & likewise with all the Legal powers & authorities of other Parishes in this Province, and may raise money for the necessary uses of the said Parish as any Town or Parish may Legally do, To have succession and continuance forever: And Samuel Emerson Esq^r of Chester, is hereby authorised to call the first meeting of said Inhabitants for the choice of the necessary Parish Officers and any other affairs they may judge proper at said meeting, giving due notice

of the time, place & Design of such meeting, in the usual & customary manner in said Town.

Provided, & Excepting, that the Polls & Estates of & within said Parish shall continue to be taxed & assessed to the Province Rates as they have usually been until a new Proportion of said Rates shall be made among the several Towns & Parishes in this Province.

Province of }
New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives, May 4th 1764

This Bill having been read three times, Voted, that it pass to be Enacted

H. Sherburne, Speaker.

In Council, May 9th 1764.

This Bill read a third tim & Past to be enacted.

Theo. Atkinson jun. Secy.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hampshire } Captain Generall, Governor and Com-
mander in Chief in and over his Majes-
ty's Province of New Hampshire, to the Honourable his
Majesty's Council and House of Representatives for said
Province in General Assembly convened :

The Humble Petition of the Subscribers, freeholders and
Inhabitants of the Parish of Raymond in said Province,
Sheweth :

That the Said Parish was Incorporated in May A. D. 1764,
and have ever since been Destitute of a Meeting-house for the
Publick Worship of God in said Parish ;

That the Parishioners cannot agree where to set a Meeting-
house, altho they have had sundry meetings for that purpose ;
but the Major part of the Inhabitants Living in the North
Easterly part of said Parish, have Voted to set the Meeting
house about a mile from the North Easterly side line of said
Parish, which will greatly discommode many of the Inhabit-
ants of the upper part of said Parish, which is likely in a
short time to be the best part of s^d Parish.

That your Petitioners humbly conceive that if the meeting-
house was to be placed as near the Center of the Parish as
possible, It would Accommodate all the Inhabitants that now
are or hereafter may be settled there. And as some of your
Petitioners live almost five miles from the place proposed &
Voted to set the said House, which is to your Petitioners a
great grievance, & if so done will be to them a heavy burthen ;
your Petitioners therefore humbly pray the Interposition of
your Excellency & hon^{rs} in this matter, and that a Disinterested
Committee may be appointed to view the said Parish & Report
where they shal think most proper for said House to Stand,

to accommodate the Inhabitants in the best manner, and that such report may be established, or that your Petitioners may be otherwise relieved in such way & manner as your Excellency & Hon^{rs} in your Wisdom shall see fit. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall Pray &c.

Raymond, Octo^r 1768.

Ezekiel Lane
Daniel Lane
Ezekiel Morss
William Todd
Samuel Healey
David Lane
Obadiah Griffen
Daniel Clay
Jonathan Palmer
James Row
Jonathan Palmer (jun)
Joseph Giles
Jonas Clay
Ephraim Currier
Alexander Smith
Joseph Giles, jun.
Clement Dollof
John Leavitt, jun

John Leavitt
Gilman Dudley
William S. Healey
Daniel Richardson
Christopher Richardson
John Hains
Stephen Thirst^r
Samuel Brown ?
John Wells
Stephen Gale
James Bean
Benjamin Prescott
Nicholas Gilman
Stephen Dudley
Joseph Smith
Samuel Cram
Alexander McCluere
John Sweat.

Province of } In the House of Representatives Octob^r 20th 1768.
New Hamp^r } Upon reading this Petition, voted, That the Petitioners
serve the Selectmen of Raymond with a Copy of this
Petition & order of Court thereon that they may be heard thereon, on
Friday the 28th Instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, and
if not then on the third day of the sitting of the Assembly after the
first day of November next.

Sam^l Hobart, Clk. Pro Temp.

In Council, Eodem Die.
Read & concurr'd.

Geo. King, Dep. Sec^r.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Octo^r 28th, 1768.
New Hamp^r } The parties being heard on this Petition and agreeing
on a Committee to be appointed,

Voted, That John Webster, Col^l Ebenezer Stevens, Esq^{rs} and Capt.
Eliphalet Morrill be a Committee for the purpose mentioned in the Pe-
tition, to proceed therein and make Report to the General Assembly as
soon as may be.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, eodem die.
Read & concurred

Geo. King, Dep. Sec^r.

RINDGE.

[This Town was granted by Massachusetts in 1738, to John Tyler, Joseph Pike and others, officers and soldiers in the Canada expedition in 1690. It was called for many years *Rowley-Canada*, and sometimes *Monadnock No. 1*. It was incorporated by charter, August 11, 1768, John Wentworth being then Governor of the Province of New Hampshire. JOHN FARMER, Esq.]

Certificate.

Francis Peabody & Huberd Gould boath of Lawfull age testifyeth & saith, That in y^e year 1742, we went to work at Rowley Canada & we kept our horses on Able Plats is hay in mado whare y^e trespas is said to be done & paid him for y^e same, & y^e s^d Plats hath bin in possession of s^d meado ever since till he gave it to his son Joseph, y^e defendant, who hath ben in possession ever since & as to y^e upland whare y^e trespas is s^d to be done we se Able Platts in y^e year 1742 y^e 29 & 30 days of September cut wood & Timber on the Lot whare y^e trespas is said to be done & y^e s^d Able Plats hath ben in possession ever sence till he gave it to his Sun Joseph Plats the defendant & he hath ben in possession to this day.

Francis Peabody
Hubbard Gould.

Essex SS. January y^e twenty seventh day 1752 Then the within named Francis Peabody and Hubard Gould both being strictly *casuned* to the truth of what is above written and then made oath to the same, —the adverse partys not Notified living more than thirty miles Distance: before me the subscriber:

Att^r

Thomas Lambert, Jus. of Pec.

Copy of the grant to Rowley-Canada, now Rindge, 1738.

At a Great & Gen^l Court or Assembly for his Majesties Province of the Mass^{ts} Bay in New England begun & held at Boston upon Wednesday the 31st day of May 1738 & continu^d by prorogation to Wednesday the 29th day of Nov^r following & then met: January 23rd a plot or Tract of Land of y^e Contents of six miles square laid out by Nathan Haywood Surveyor & chainman on oath to satisfy a grant made by this Court to John Tyler, Joseph Pike & others officers & soldiers in y^e Canada Expedition in the year 1690, Lying to the Southward of the mountain called the Grand Monadnock & adjoining to y^e Township granted to Sam^l Haywood & others, Beginning at a maple Tree y^e northeasterly corner of Dotchester-Canada Township, from thence Runing north 32 deg^s East two miles & one hundred poles to a heap of stones, Thence north 22 deg^s East four miles, Thence North one mile till it meets with y^e said Township granted to Samuel Haywood &c. Thence West four miles by y^e s^d Township to the southwesterly corner thereof, Thence north by y^e s^d Township three miles & two hundred & twenty poles, Thence west 30 deg^s South five miles & one hundred & eighty poles to a wild cherry Tree on the Southward of y^e Grand Monadnock afores^d, Thence South one thousand & eighty poles, Thence East 41 deg^s South two thousand five hundred perch to a heap

of Stones, then North 12 deg^r East one mile to y^e northeasterly corner of Dotchester-Canada Township, being y^e maple first mentioned, with the allowance of one rod in Thirty for uneven Land & Swag of chain & a further allowance for ten large ponds & a large shrub Swamp about four miles in length & a mile in Breadth.

In Council Read & ordered that five thousand Acres only be allowed for Ponds & that the Committee be Directed to reform the plot upon the Spot accordingly at the charge of the Grantees, & Report to this Court at the next May session.

In the House of Representatives, Read and concur^d.

Consented to.

J. BELCHER.

Copy examined,

pr.

Thos. Perley Pro. Clerk.

Taken from a copy attested by

J. Willard, Sec^y

Andover, April 3^d, 1750.

We y^e Subscribers being appointed by a Committee chosen by y^e Proprietors of Rowly-Canada Township to go in y^e capacity of surveyors & run a line from three miles North of Black Rocks in Salisbury, sixty miles Due west, have so done & find that Sixty miles extends one mile & a half into s^d Canada Township.

Sam^l Johnson jun
Moody Bridges.

N^o. B. We have neither of us any interest in s^d Township.

ROCHESTER.

[Rochester was originally granted by Massachusetts to a number of Proprietors in 127 shares, and contained upwards of 60,000 acres of land. The town was incorporated 10 May, 1722. Ed.]

Meeting of Proprietors.

At a Publick meeting of y^e Proprietors of the Town of Rochester legally warned and holden at y^e Meeting house in said Town of Rochester on y^e tenth day of July 1732

Voted, That the Rev^d Mr. Joseph Adams (1) be y^e Moderator of the present meeting.

Voted, That the Proprietors of the Town of Rochester with the Inhabitants of s^d Town support a Gospel Minister in said Town During y^e term of seven years longer than was exprest in an Act of y^e Gen^l Court Dated May y^e 10th 1731, Beginning at y^e Expiration of said Act and so continuing till y^e seven years be expired, each one paying according to their Interest.

Vera Copia, as on Rochester Town Book.

Attest,

Paul Gerrish, Proprietors Cler.

(1) Rev. Joseph Adams was a native of Braintree, Mass.; born 1689; graduated from Harvard College, 1710; ordained as minister of Newington, N. H., Nov. 16, 1715; continued in the ministry there 68 years; and died 26th May, 1784, aged 95 years. Ed.

Petition of Rochester, relating to the Gospel Ministry.

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, and to the honourable his Majestyes Council with the honourable house of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd at Ports^m in said Province:

The Petition of your humble Petitioners Inhabitants of the Township of Rochester in the Province afores^d humbly *sheweth*.—

That we, the Inhabitants of Rochester, being persuaded that the Gospel & Means of Grace is a rich & invaluable priviledge, for which reason we can't but much lament our sad State, while we live without s^d means; & seeing no Rational Prospect of obtaining them for some considerable time to come, without the help & assistance of the non-Resident Proprietors, especially considering our own poverty & the Difficultys in subduing a wilderness, and hoping it may not be deem'd unreasonable to Desire some assistance from them, in order to our Injoying the Gospel among us, since 'tis too evident to need any proof that their temporal interest is greatly advanced by us; that is, by our settling in s^d Town; and with-all, persuading ourselves that this honourable Court will Reconsider our State & now doe some what for our Relief:—We, whose names are underwritten doe once more humbly Request the Legislative Power to pass an Act whereby to oblige the Proprietors of said Rochester to assist us the Inhabitants in supporting the Gospel in said Town of Rochester for the space of six or seven years; till, 'tis likely we may be able to doe it of our selves; or for such a term or Time as this Honourable Court should think fit: As also that the honourable Court would appoint two or three persons for calling the Inhabitants of the Town together for this present year for the choice of Town officers &c. And your humble Petitioners shall ever pray as in Duty bound.

Benjamin Merrow
Sam^l Richard
Robbard Knite
Joseph Heard
Joseph Miller
John Jennes
Mark Jennes
John Bickford
Jonathan Yong
James Lock
Timothy Robberts
Joseph Richards
Clem^l Dearing
Ebenezer Place

Jonathan Cops
Stephen Berry
Joseph Richards
John Wentworth
William Chamberlin
William James
John Mac fee ?
Zebulon Dam
John Bickford jun.
Samuel Marrow
Ebenezer Bruster
Benjamin Fosst
John Garlen
Elezar Ham

John Allen
Paul Tibbets
Solomon Clark
William Elis
Stephen Harford

Joseph Richards jun.
Benj^a Tebbets
Philip Dorr ? jun.
William Stiles.

April 29, 1736, In the House of Representatives,

The within Petition was read, and considered of, and Voted, That every Proprietor of a full share of Lands in the town of Rochester, pay the Sum of fifteen shillings pr Annum to the Inhabitants of the said Town (or such person or persons as they shall appoint to receive the same), towards the support of a Gospel minister amongst them During the full term of seven years, and so in proportion to the sum of fifteen shillings pr annum according to their Propriety. be the same more or less, during the term aforesaid. Provided & the Petitioners are hereby obliged to keep an orthodox minister during said term, and that the Rev^d Jos. Adams & John Jennes & Wm. Chamberlaine be impowered to call a Town meeting to choose town officers, as the Law directs, for the present year, and y^t all such officers so chosen shall have full power & authority as other town Officers have by Law & that the Peti^{rs} have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffrey, Cler. Assⁿ

In Coun^t eo. die.

Read & Concur'd.

Rich^d Waldron, Sec^y

Assented to

J. BELCHER.

[An Act was passed agreeably to the foregoing vote (1). ED.]

(1) See copy of said Act in MS. "Town Papers," Vol. VI. p. 115. ED.

Petition of William Chamberlin and John Jeness, for further relief.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Court convened.

The Humble Petition of William Chamber^s [Chamberlin] and John Jeness both of Rochester in the Province of New Hampshire, as a Committee for the said Town, *shews* :

That the said Town of Rochester being an Infant settle^t the Inhabitants thereof Labour under many hardships & Inconveniences unknown to Places come to maturity and that are able to supply with all the necessaries of life.

That the General Court in consideration of the Indigent circumstances of the said Inhabitants past an Act some few years since subjecting the non-resident Proprietors to the payment of fifteen shillings upon every whole Right or share, and in proportion for a Lesser part towards the support of the Ministry.

& other charges of the said Town;—which Act was temporary & expires in March or April next.

That the said Inhabitants have labored under the frowns of Providence in a peculiar manner for the two last years, by cutting short their crops of Indian Corn (their chief support) with early & unseasonable Frosts, which has greatly distressed them & made them more Indigent than when the Court granted them the aid above mentioned; especially too considering there is no Grist Mill in the said Town & that they suffer many other inconveniences too numerous to be here particularly mentioned:—Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their constituents most humbly Pray this Hon^{ble} Court to Revive the aforesaid Act for such time as shall seem meet or to grant them leave to bring in another, drafted in such manner as this Court shall think to be a proper support & succour to the said Inhabitants, or give them such other Relief as in your Great Wisdom & Goodness you shall think proper;—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound (in their said capacity) shall ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM CHAMBERLIN

JOHN JENNES.

Feby 13th 1741

In the House of Representatives:

The within Petition read and the Petitioners heard and som of the Proprietors p'sent at the hearing:

Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be thus far granted, viz. That the non-resident Proprietors shall pay ten shillings annually for one whole share & so in proportion to their interest in s^d Town, for & towards the support of the Ministry in said Town, and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly: the Act to continue for three years & no longer.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Feby 18th 1741-2.

In Council Feb^y 19, 1741-2.

Read and non-concurred unanimously.

R. Waldron, Secy.

In Coun^l Feb. 20th 1741-2.

The within Petition read & voted, That the Proprietors (both resident and non-resident) of the first and second divisions of land in the Town of Rochester and the Proprietors of any part or parts of the said first or second divisions be subjected by a special Act to pay annually a tax of five shillings for a home lot and five shillings for a second division, and pro rata for a part of a first or second division, for & towards the support of the Gospel ministry in the said Town, for and during the space of three years next coming and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly. It is to be understood that the five shillings above mentioned is to be according to the value of our present current Province Bills.

R. Waldron, Secy.

February the 23^d 1741—

In the House of Representatives.

The above Vote of Council Read & concurr'd & the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Feb. 23, 1741.

Assented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition for a guard of soldiers, 1746.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. Gen^l And Governor-in-Chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, and to y^r Honourable Council & Representatives, in Gen^l Court assembled:

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rochester in y^e Province afores^d humbly *Sheweth*: That whereas your Petitioners are few in number & under Indigent circumstances, living in a wilderness, where we are continually liable to y^r Assaults of y^e Barbarous Indian Enemy who have killed four of our men already & taken one man & a Boy in y^r week past & have killed & wounded a considerable number of our Cattle that we have found already (more being missing) and they are continually Lurking about our Houses and Fields (being seen by some of us almost every day) so that we cannot go out or come in without being liable to Fall by them, & our Families are suffering & we not able to go out to our labour, and we have no soldiers in the town at this time;—Therefore, we humbly Pray & Intreat your Excellency & your Honours to take our Deploable circumstances under your wise consideration & to extend your paternal care & affection to us, By allowing us a suitable Number of soldiers to Guard us in our Garrisons & about our necessary employments from time to time; and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray, &c.

Rochester July 1, 1746.

Tim^o Roberts
Edward Tebbetts
John Lighton
John Jennes
William Jennes
Jonathan Young
James Lock
Henery Allerd
Thomas Drew
John Hammock
James Plleace ?
Clement Deeren
Ithema Sevey
James Busey
John McFee
Joseph Richards
Beniman Heays
Zebolon Damm
Jonathan Hodgen

Stephan Berey
Joseph Walker
James Rodger
Daniel McNeall
James Rodger jun
John Heard
Ruben Heard
Matthew McFee
Abram Pearce
Beniman Richards
Ichabod Coson
Ebenezer Plaise
Thomas Young
Elezar Ham
Solomon Clark
John Garlon
William Chamber^l
Solomon Perkins.

In Council, July 2^d 1746.

Read & sent down to the Hon^{bl} House.

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^r.

Petition for further relief and for a guard of soldiers, 1747.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hamp^r } Captain General, Governor and Commander-
 in-chief of his Majesty's Province aforesaid,

The Honourable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives:

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Rochester in the Province aforesaid Humbly *sheweth*:

Whereas the circumstances of your Petitioners by Distress of the Enemy, a Frontier Town, Whereby are much exposed, and suffered by the Inroad of the Enemy in the year past, with the loss of the Lives of five men, the Inhabitants of this Town, and many of our Brethren not less than Twenty, enlisted in his Majesty's service for the Canada Expedition, several families moved off by Distress and fear of the Enemy, whereby we are unable to Defend and protect the settlement and Improvements made here:

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray you will take our Distressed Circumstances into consideration, and grant us such a stated number of men as may be sufficient to Defend and protect this settlement and improvements and preserve the lives of the Inhabitants of this town. We humbly acknowledge and return our hearty thanks for Relief sent us the year past.

Our Improvements and further Improvements of our several settlements Depends upon the succour and relief of this Province, otherwise must unavoidably move in and leave our several settlements for the destruction of the Indian Enemy: Therefore your Petitioners again would entreat to grant our Petition:

Which is the Prayer of your Petitioners.

Rochester, March 2^d 1746-7.

Tim^o Roberts
 Edward Tebbets
 John Alan
 & for his sons.
 William Allen
 Nathan Allen
 John Wallingfar
 & son, Peter Wallingford
 John Young
 John Bickford
 Thomas Perkins
 Jonathan Young
 Samuel Richards
 James Loock
 Ichabod Horn
 John Loughton
 Samuel Loughton
 Samuel Twombly

Sam^l Whithouse
 Robert Knight
 Jo^r Libby
 Benj^s Richards
 James Place
 John McFee
 Ebenezer Place
 Joseph Walker
 Reuben Heard
 Richard Winford
 Stephen Berry
 Zebulon Dam
 Alexander Hodgdon
 Jonathan Hodgdon
 John Heard
 Beniamen Hayes
 Daniel McNeill
 Ithamer Sevey

Richard Bickford
William Jennes
Aaron Tibbets
Isaac Miller
James Merrow

Joseph Egerly
Thomas Young
John Garland
Aleazer Ham

In Council, April 1, 1747.

Read & order'd to be sent down to y^e Hon^{ble} House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

Letter of thanks, and petition for further aid.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. Gen^l and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New-Hampshire; and to the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives in General Court Conv^d

May it please your Excellency and your Hon^{rs}:—This, agreeable to a Vote in a Publick Town meeting holden in Rochester October 19th, 1747, is to Return the greatfull acknowledgment of the said Town to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} for the Paternal care you have taken of us in the spring and summer past by sending Maj^r Thomas Davis to us with the soldiers under his command; Who by his prudent, dilligent and carefull managm^t under the Divine Providence, hath been instrumental of Defeat^g the Enemy in their attempts against us and so of Preserving our Lives and the Lives of our Families; and we think it a Reasonable Duty for us to Render our thanks to your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} General Court in this Publick manner.

And we pray your Excellency and your Hon^{rs} if in your wisdom shall think it necessary and convenient to favour us with a few soldiers a while longer to scout about the Town upon the Discovery.

And inasmuch as we are unable of ourselves to support the Gospel Ministry amongst us, We pray your Excellency and your Hon^{rs} to lay a Tax upon the First and Second Division Lots of Land in Rochester belonging to the non-resident Proprietors to be paid annually towards the support of the Gospel Ministry in said Rochester, and your humble Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

The foregoing Articles were Voted in a Publick Town meeting holden in Rochester, October 19th 1747, and Voted that they be preferred to his Excellency the Gov^r and to the gen^l Court of this Province in manner aforesaid.

Attest,

JNO. BICKFORD, Town Clerk.

In Council, Nov. 12th 1747.

Read and sent down to the Hon^{ble} House.
Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

Prov. of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives, 13th Nov^r 1747.
 Hampshire } Voted, That y^e Petitioners be heard on this Petition
 y^e second Day of y^e setting of y^e Gen^l Assembly after
 the first of January next, & that y^e Petitioners at their own cost adver-
 tise y^e publick two or three weeks successively (between this day & y^e
 afores^d Second Day) in y^e Post Boy & Evening Post News papers (so
 called) of y^e Prayer of y^e s^d Petition & this order of Court, that every
 one may have opportunity to shew cause if any there be why y^e Prayer
 of s^d Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, Eod. Die.
 read & concurred.

T. Atkinson, Secy.

Nov. 19.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of John Dam, in relation to Roads, in Rochester.

Prov. of New Hamp^r } To his Excellency the Gov^r the Hon^{ble} his Maj-
 esties Council, and the Hon^{ble} House of Rep-
 resentatives of said Province:

The Petition of the Town of Rochester in said Province
 Humbly sheweth:

That by reason of the unwearied Diligence of a Number of
 Gentlemen in Settlin the Wilderness Country to the Northward
 of us, and the abundance of Land-carriage and Travelling
 which is Daily or yearly increasing and Likely so to continue,
 Makes it Necessary to have a good Road or Roads to Encour-
 age so essential a Plan for promoting the Bringing the unprof-
 itable Wilderness to be serviceable to the Province and En-
 creasing his Majesties subjects in the same, and by Reason of
 our Natural situation the Roads must run a great length
 through our Town which is but a little part of it settled at one
 end in comparison of what is unsettled. so that the Road to New
 Durham Runs 7 or 8 Miles through said unsettled Land, and
 the Road to Water Town much further. and the Inhabitants
 Dont own one 16th if the 20th part of said wild Land, which
 is yearly increasing in value by settling the country above, and
 we have don between five and six hundred days work on the
 Road to New Durham, which is found Insufficient, and we
 have had one Presentment already for said Deficiency and are
 liable to more when any disaffected Party shall see cause:

Therefore we pray that your Exc^l and Honours will pass an
 Act to lay a Tax on the settled and unsettled Land through the
 whole Town to defray the charge of clearing and repairing the
 Roads through the unsettled Land from time to time as there
 may be occasion or so long and Recoverable in such a way as
 your Honors in your wise Penetration may judge Reasonable.

We trust you will consider our circumstances as a People, that in peril of our Lives from the sword of the wilderness, have Defended this frontier from which we are but just Relieved, so that our condition may well be thought to be otherways than if we had had our Liberty; for many or the most of us are not in a capacity to take our Packs and travel sixteen or Eighteen miles into the country to Do so much Labour as is needful on said Roads, and our families not suffer at home; Therefore we hope your Parental affections are such that you will lay the Burden where it Properly Belongs; and we as in duty Bound will ever Pray.

Signed in and on behalf of said Rochester

Per JONA. DAM. Agent.

Rochester, 12th Feb^r, 1768.

In Council, Feb^r 17th 1768.

The above Petition read & ordered to be sent down.

Geo. King, Dep^y Secy.

In the House of Representatives, Feb^r 18, 1768.

The within Petition being considered, voted, That the Petitioners be heard thereon the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the tenth day of March next, and that in the mean time, he cause the substance of this Petition to be printed in the New Hampshire Gazette three weeks successively, and give notice that any Person may then shew cause why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clr.

Eodem die. In Council,
read & concurr'd

Geo. King, Dep. Sec^y

Province of }
New Hamp^{sh} } In the House of Representatives, March 17, 1768.

The within Petition being considered and the Petitioner and such who appeared to make Objection being fully heard:—

Voted, That the Petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill for laying a tax of one half penny pr Acre yearly for two years on all the Lands in said Township belonging to Residents and non Residents for making and Repairing the highways in s^d Town, under the care of the Selectmen who are to Render an account of their Proceedings herein to the General Assembly: and any Person shall have liberty of paying his Proportion of said tax by Labour at two shillings pr Day finding himself and observing the Direction of the said Selectmen.

M. Weare, Clr.

In Council, March 18th 1768.

Read & concurr'd.

Geo. King, Dep. Secy.

RUMNEY.

[Rumney was granted first to Samuel Olmstead, afterwards to Daniel Brainerd, Esq., 18th of March, 1767. A settlement, however, was begun there, in October, 1765, by Capt. Jotham Cummings. The first minister, Rev. Thomas Niles, was a native of East Haddam, Ct.; graduated Yale College 1758; ordained 21 Oct. 1767, and settled in Rumney; left Feb. 10, 1788. He was a Congregationalist, but it does not appear that a church was organized there. Ed.]

Petition of sundry Inhabitants of Rumney against Daniel Brainerd, Esq.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq'
New Hampshire } Governor and Commander in chief in and
over the Province of New Hampshire
afores^d and to the Honourable Council
and Assembly of said Province:

The Petition of the subscribers being Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Town of Rumney most humbly *sheweth*:

That Daniel Brainerd of said Rumney, Esq^r is owner and according to the Province Laws has Right (as your petitioners suppose) to vote for a considerable number of Proprietors shares or Rights in said Town, and that he takes upon him in the meeting of the Proprietors of said Town to vote for sundry others Rights or shares therein, under color of Power and Authority from the owners of the same, which owners do not attend said meetings;—by which he is enabled to carry the vote and to decide all affairs in such proprietors Meetings according to his own pleasure, to the introducing much confusion and uncertainty in the publick & common affairs of said Proprietors (as your Petitioners apprehend) and which Power the s^d Brainerd uses in such manner as to injure and oppress your Petitioners particularly in the following Instances: as

First—That the monies Voted by the Propriety are not laid out for the Proprietors use or to answer the purposes for which they were granted by s^d Propriety, by which means the settlement of this Town is much retarded and your Petitioners greatly damaged.

Secondly—No Rate or Tax has been duly assessed upon the said Proprietors since the Grant of their Charter, till within a few months past, and the Rate now assess'd does not amount to the whole of the Proprietors Debts.

Thirdly—No settlement has been made with the Rev^d Mr. Niles the minister of said Rumney since he has been the minister of s^d Town, nor any part of his Salary paid whereby he has been obliged to commence a suit in Law for the Recovery of his Sallary, and the said Brainerd by means aforementioned

has procured a vote of said Proprietors to charge themselves without justice or necessity (as your Petitioners Imagine) with twelve shillings Lawful money upon each Right to defend said suit. The Rev. Mr Niles before s^d vote was pass'd having publicly offered to withdraw said suit at Law, and also to abate of his Salary forty Dollars, if the Proprietors would come to settlement with him according to said Proprietors vote.

Fourthly—Sundry of your Petitioners having paid divers sums to the Rev^d Mr. Niles and laboured for him with expectation that the same should be set off against their Respective Rates or Taxes to his Sallary, no Tax was for a long time assess'd, and now but a part of the money due to Mr. Niles is assess'd, and that comprised in y^e same general sum with the other taxes; and no ways distinguished from them therein; so that though Mr. Niles is willing to discount the same yet your Petitioners cannot come to the knowledge of the particular sums due to him in y^e Tax assess'd as afores'd.

Fifthly—Some of your Petitioners having requested of the s^d Brainerd that he could make a just assessment and procure a Rate bill combining the whole of y^e money due to Mr. Niles according to vote of y^e Propriety, y^e s^d Brainerd refuseth to do it, and refuseth to accept of Receipts from Mr. Niles for the whole which is due to him as afores^d and by means of the said Brainerd's conduct and arbitrary use of his Power, your Petitioners Lands are exposed to be sold and will be sold as we are publickly notified on y^e 23^d of this Instant July, unless your Petitioners pay the money, tho' they have paid the same in Labour:—Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray your Excellency and the Honourable Council and Assembly to take their case under consideration and to grant them such relief in the Premises as to the wisdom of your Excellency and the Honourable Council and Assembly shall seem meet; and particularly that such order may be made thereupon that your Petitioners may have the full benefit of what they have paid the Rev^d Mr. Niles and the labour they have done for him. by the same being set off to pay Mr. Niles, and that they may not be liable to pay over again those sums which they have already paid as afores^d nor be liable to have their Land sold for the non-payment thereof nor be driven to their Action in Law to recover a due allowance for their labour: And your humble Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Rumney, July y^e 5th A. D. 1771.

Elihu Johnson
Barnabas Niles
Charles Clark
Isaac Clifford, Treas. or asses.
Pelatiah Watson

Joseph Clark
Matt. Ramsey
Hugh Ramsey
Thomas Ramsey.



Petition of Daniel Brainerd and others.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq^r
 New Hampshire, } Capt. Gen^l Governor & Commander in
 Rockingham ss. } chief in and over his Majesty's Province
 aforesaid, and the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's
 Council for said Province :

The Petition of Daniel Brainerd of Rumney in s^d County & Province, in behalf of himself, and Mathew Grissell of Lime, David Day & Henry Champion of Colchester. & Joseph Spencer of East-Haddam, all in the Colony of Connecticut, Humbly *sheweth* :—

That your Petitioner and the afore mentioned persons are considerably interested in said Town of Rumney, under his Majesty's Grant thereof, and have with Jeremiah Clough Esq^r Sam^l Moore & others been making Large Improvements therein by persons under them greatly to the Emolument of said Town :

That the time limited for doing the Duty conditioned in the grant aforesaid Expir'd the 18th day of March last: That a number of the original Grantees have neglected to perform the several conditions in said Grant express'd, much to the prejudice of the Settle^r of said Town, namely. Humphrey Colby, Jabez Chapman, Miles Wright, Thomas Mosely and others :

Wherefore, your Petitioner humbly prays that your Excellency & Honours would take the Premises into consideration and grant your Petitioner and the said Matthew Grissell, David Day, Henry Champion and Joseph Spencer such further Time to complete the duty enjoyn'd upon their Interest, as in your great Wisdom shall seem meet: and also to dispose of the Interest and shares of the delinquent Proprietors to such of his Majesty's good subjects as will effectually settle & cultivate the same; and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

Portsm^o May 4th, 1772.

The Names of the *other* Grantees, who are delinquent in Rumney, referr'd to above, viz. Thomas Niles, Clerk, Ephraim Rand, Aaron Brainard & Jabez Chapman: There is one family settled on these two original Rights, but on which particular one is uncertain, as they remain undivided.

DANIEL BRAINERD.

Petition of Rev. Thomas Niles.

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq^r Captain General and Governor-in-chief of his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, and to the Honorable his Majesty's Council of said Province:

The Petition of Thomas Niles of Rumney in the County of Grafton in said Province, Clerk, humbly *sheweth*:—

That your Petitioner was ordained about five years ago and has endured all the hardships attending the Beginning of a new Township as the first minister of said Town of Rumney, that he owns three Rights of Land in s^t Township, viz. one as the proper Right of the first ordained Minister, another which was originally drawn to Ephraim Rand, by the free gift of the Proprietors of Rumney as an additional encouragement to him to settle so early in the Town among the first inhabitants, and a third granted to him the said Thomas Niles by Name in the new charter of s^t Township:—all which Rights the Proprietors voted to be exempt from all Taxes while in the Possession of your Petitioner and during his Ministry in said town. That on the Right originally drawn to Ephraim Rand, your Petitioner has expended considerable money and labor, and has inclosed about twenty acres which he improves for pasturage, and is making Preparation for the settlement of a Family there as soon as possible; That on the Right granted him by Name in his Majesty's charter of the Township, your Petitioner has erected a House & Barn and mows several Tons of good English hay, and has other valuable articles of produce; That your Petitioner would have proceeded much farther in his improvements of all the above mentioned Rights if he had not been injuriously kept out of the greater part of his Salary due to him from the afores^d Proprietors since his settlement in the Township: Your Petitioner therefore earnestly Requests that the Rights afores^d may be continued to him notwithstanding any Representations which may have been made to your Excellency and Honors, of his having forfeited any of them; and relies on your Wisdom and goodness that said Rights will still be confirmed: And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

THOMAS NILES.

Rumney, June 19th 1772.

RYE.

[Rye was formerly called Sandy Beach, and was appurtenant to Portsmouth. After New Castle was constituted, Sandy Beach became a Parish of that place; and was incorporated as such in 1726, and allowed to send a representative to the General Assembly. Ed.]

Petition for a new District or Precinct, 1721.

To his Excellency Samuel Shute Esq^r Capt. Gen^l & Governor in chief in and over his Maj^{ties} Province of New Hampshire &c. To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives, now conven'd in Gen^l Assembly in & for s^d Province:

The humble Petition of sundry the Inhabitants living about Sandy Beach, partly in New Castle, Hampton & Portsmouth, humbly *sheweth*:

That your Petitioners, the subscribers hereof, have for these many years past lived under great inconveniencies as to their having the free benefit of the gospell, most of us Living at great Distances from our Respective meeting-houses, especially those belonging to New-Castle;—for that besides the great Distance wee live from thence, there is the great Inconvenience of a Ferry, by the Reasons of which for neare half the yeare, Wee the Masters of families that are best able cannot but now and then attend upon the publick worship of God (as in Duty wee are bound) and when wee Doe, It is many times late within Night e're wee can reach our habitations: And besides this great inconvenience to ourselves, there is a much greater happens to the greatest part of our families (viz.) our women and children, who can rarely attend at all or not above two or three times in the yeare, and then but those that are grown to years; for our younger children that should imbibe in the precepts of the gospell with their milk, cannot attend untill grown to some years: Wee having four, five & some more than six miles, besides the Ferry; And wee can now count amongst us above two hundred and forty or fifty souls, and not one third capeable to attend as wee are now circumstanced: And we think ourselves capeable to maintain a minister of the Gospel, and to give a Competent Liveing, as our neighbouring Pa'shes & precincts do:

Therefore wee, your humble Petitioners prays that we may be set off a p'ticular precinct (from Mr. William Seveys and westward by the sea-side as far towards Hampton as the little Boars head or Little River, and back into the Country about three miles & a halfe or soe far as in your wisdom shall see meet) and that we may be impowered to make and raise all

our own Taxes & gather them: So prays your humble Petitioners.

John Lock
 William Wallis
 John Brackett
 Thomas Rand
 Joshua Foss
 Edward Lock
 Beniamen Sevey
 William Lock
 Nicolas Hodge
 James Fowler
 Samuel Seavey
 Samuel Lock
 Isack Libe
 Jacob Libe
 James Lock
 John Garland
 Ebenezer Philbrick
 William Seavey
 James Seavey
 Philip Pain
 Samuel Rand
 Samuel Brackett
 Joseph Seavey
 Thomas Rand
 Beniamen Seary, jun
 Moses Seary

William Marden
 Nemiah Beary
 Nathanel Beary
 William Beary
 Samuel Beary
 Samuel Dovost
 James Marden
 Richard Goss
 Ebenezer Berry
 Joseph Brown
 Francis Lock
 Jethro Lock
 Stephen Beary
 John Knowles
 Hezekiah Jennes
 Thos Jennes
 John Jennes
 Chris: Palmer
 Samuel Sevey
 Richard Jannes
 John Lock, jr
 Joseph Lock
 Nathanel Rand
 Samuel Dovst
 Samuel Wallis
 Willm Sevey jun.

Petition to be set off as a new Parish or District, 1724.

To the Hon^{ble} John Wentworth, Esq^r Liv^t Gov^r and Commander in Chief in and over his Maj^{ty's} Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Hon^{ble} the Council for s^t Province:

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants living in that part of New Castle called Little Harbour and Sandy Beach, and the Inhabitants living at the Eastward of the Little River comonly so called, att the Easterly end of Hampton, next Sandy Beach, and sundry others of Portsm^o Living near the s^d Sandy Beach humbly *Sheweth*:

That there being sixty familys or upward within the Precints above named who having for a long time lived att a great Distance from any meeting house where the publick worship of God has been carried on, and most of us having great familys which very Rare above one or Two of a family can go to the House of God for the greatest part of the time by Reason of the Distance we live from any meeting house, and thereby the greatest part of our familys have been Deprived of the Dispensation of the Gospell, and there has been

almost a famine of the word and worship of God amongst us, there being near four hundred souls whereof not above the sixth or seventh part can attend s^d worship which is very Prejudiciall to the glory of God, and Destructive to our Eternall wellfare, for the greatest part of us thus to be brought up in Ignorance which is a Greater Griefe to us than we can herein Express, and the only cause of addressing y^e Hon^r and the Hon^{le} the Council herein.

And for preventing the Difficulties and Hardships which wee have for a long time labour'd under, and for the advancement of the glory of God and good of souls, wee the subscribers hereof humbly prays your Hon^r and the Honourable the Council that wee may be sett off a Particular District or Precinct for the maintaining a minister with the Priviledges of carying on the affairs of a Town or Parish according to the Bounds hereafter Exprest or as your Hon^r in wisdom shall see meet. viz. To Begin att Sampsons Point and Run south west to the Road from Seaveys to y^e Bank and then on the Southerly side of the Road by Capt. Walker's and Capt. Langdon's to the Road that goes to Breakfast (1) Hill (Exclusive of that part of Capt. Walker's and Capt. Langdon's Land that now lyeth in Portsmouth,) and on the southerly side of the Road from between Capt. Langdon's and Slopers farms to Breakfast Hill to the Road from s^d Sandy Beach to Greenland, and then on a South west line untill it meet with Little River in Hampton Bounds, and then on the Easterly side Little River to y^e Sea, and then round by the Sea Side to y^e Place where itt Began, and that all the Land that Elias Tarlten and Jeremiah Jorden and Abraham Libby enjoy may be poled off to s^d Town or Parish herein mentioned, wee having been at the charge of Building a Meeting house by the consent and att the charge of most of the Inhabitants within the Bounds herein mentioned: hoping your Hon^r will grant so Reasonable a Request for so good End, and your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

Jotham Odiorne^r
Wm. Seavy
Wm. Wallis
Hezh Gennius
Tho. Rand
Phillip Payne^r
Jno. Gennins
Richd Gennius
Richd Goss
Saml Seavy

Nathl Rand
Wm. Lock
Wm. Marden
Jos. Lock
James Seavy
Wm. Berry
Ez. Noles
Josha Foss
James Lock
James Fuller

(1) So called from the circumstance that a party of Indians, after an attack upon the people on the "Plains" at Portsmouth, 2^d June, 1666, encamped and took breakfast on the declivity of a hill near the bounds of Greenland and Rye. The hill retains the name to this day.—*Breaster's Rem. Ports.* Vol. I. p. 73. Ed.

Saml Rand
 Thos Rand, jun.
 Jos. Seavy
 Elias Tarlton
 Jeremiah Jorden
 Elex Simes
 Benja Seavy, Jun.
 Nathl Berry
 Francis Lock
 Stephen Berry
 Jonathan Lock
 Saml Doust
 Eben Berry
 Saml Brackett
 Saml Seavy, Jun.
 Jno Noles
 Jno Lock
 Jno Lock, jun.
 James Marden
 Solomon Doust
 Christ Pamer
 Tho. Gennins

Hez. Gennins, jun.
 Saml Wallis
 Nehemiah Bery
 Richd Rand
 Thos Edmunds
 Edwd Lock
 Jno Moor
 Benja Seavey, jun
 James Randall
 Isaac Liby
 Jacob Liby
 Eben Philbrick
 Saml Lock
 Ab'm Liby
 Wm. Seavy, tertius
 Wm. Webster
 James Shute
 Wm. Seavy, jun
 Saml Berry
 Wm. Gammon
 Stephen Marden.
 63.

*Vote and Remonstrance of Portsmouth against the Petition
 from Sandy Beach, 1724.*

Att a Publick Town Meeting held in Portsmⁿ the 20th Ap^r 1724,
 Vot'd That y^e Prayer of Sandy Beach so far as it Relates to this
 Town is highly unreasonable & y^e Coll. Plaisted & Capt. Phipps Esq^r
 & Mr. Wm. Fellows be a Committee in behalfe of s^d Town to appear be-
 fore y^e Gov^r & Councill upon y^e hearing of y^e s^d Petition & Remon-
 strate against y^e Same & Implead y^e Petition^{rs} generally so y^t there
 may be no further curtailing or Dividing of y^e s^d Town; which is
 already Reduc'd to very narrow limits, by New Castle, Greenland &
 Newington, & y^e y^e Committe be Impower'd to imply an Attorney in
 y^e Premises if there be occasion.

True Copy—Test.

Josh. Peirce, Town Clr.

21st Ap^r 1724.

*Petition from sundry Inhabitants of Little Harbour, Sandy
 Beach and Hampton, 1725.*

To the Honourable John Wentworth Esq^r Lieut. Governor
 and Commander-in-chief in & over his Majesties Province
 of New Hamp^r; To the Honourable the Council And Repre-
 sentatives in Gen^l Assembly conven'd at Portsmouth in the
 s^d Province:

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of Little Harbour and
 Sandy Beach in the Town of New Castle, and sundry of the

Inhabitants of the East end of the Town of Hampton, and some of Portsmⁿ or Greenland, most humbly *sheweth* :

That the dwelling-places of y^r Petitioners with their Families, which consist of the number of more than Four hundred Souls, are very far distant from the settled Meeting-Houses in the respective Towns to which they belong and thereby their attendance on the publick worship of God on the Lord's Days is rendered extremely difficult, and at some times impossible in stormy weather and in the winter season, especially, to their Women and children, so that they cannot pay to God the Honour of Publick worship on his day, which Religion and the good Laws of the government demand of them; and your Petition^{rs} with their wives and children are brought up in Ignorance of his word; Which evil cannot be remedied but by the favours of your Honours and the Honourable Assembly in constituting them a separate District or Precinct from their respective Towns, to which they now belong, and enabling them to carry on the Publick worship of God amongst themselves; and therefore yo^r Petitioners most humbly pray that your Honour and this Honourable Assembly would please to set off that part of New Castle called Sandy Beach & Little Harbour, with such of Hampton, Portsmⁿ or Greenland as to you in your Wisdom shall seem proper to be a District or Precinct for the carrying on the worship of God and maintaining a School therein according to Law, and your Petitioners shall ever pray, as in duty bound, &c.

Samuel Seavy
Joseph Lock
John Lock, jun.
Thomas Jeffry ?
James Fuller
David Smith
Ezekeel Knowls
Wm. Gennings ?
Stephen Beary
William Lock
Jethro Lock
Thos Jennes
John Jennes, jun.
Saml Lock
Phillip Pain
Richard Jennes
Samuel Gove
Francis Lock
Isiak Lybe
Alexander Sims
John Knowles
Jonathan Lock
Joshua Foss
Ebenezer Berry

his
William X Marden
mark
William Marden, jun.
Solo Doust, jun.
Samuel Rand
Solomon Dowst
William Barry
Nehemiah Berry
James Seavey
Samuel Wales
Orem Dowst
Willm Sevey jun
James Shute
John Lock
Hezekiah Jennes
William Wallis
Samuel Brackett
William Lock
John Jenes
James Lock
John Garland
Beneamen Lamprey
Christofar Palmer

Ebenezer Philbrick
James Berry
Joseph Sevey
Benja Sevey
Edwd Randle
Isaac Dow
James Marden
Thoms Rand
John Pain

Nathil Rand
Thomas Rand
William Rand
Simon Knowles
Jacob Libbe
Nathaniel Bary
Daniel Hasley
Wm. Gammon
Edward Lock.

X^y 29, 1725. In the House of Representatives.

The within Petition being read: Ordered that the Towns of New Castle, Portsmouth, Hampton & Greenland be notified by the Petitioners to appear on the second day of the sitting of the Spring Sessions next, to shew cause (if any they have) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

Jas. Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

Another Petition from the same source, 1725.

Whereas we the subscribers did formerly Petition to the Government of this Province to be set off for a Precinct or District, which we humbly conceive was denyed, because it was thought that if the prayer of the Petition were granted, the Great Island could not subsist to maintain a Minister there without the assistance of a great part of the subscribers;—now to take of that objection, and in order that the Gospel may be continued both at the Island and Sandy Beach, we the subscribers consent that Twenty Pounds annually during the Rev'd Mr. Shurtleff's life, or continuance in the Ministry at the Island, be allow'd as follows: viz. That whereas Little Harbour side with Sandy Beach used to pay near one third part of Mr. Shurtleff's Salary, and there being five persons on Little Harbour side that do not desire to join with us, the Petitioners, viz. Lieut. Jno. Sherburn, Tobias Lear, Jno. Odiorne, James Randle, and the Widow Wallis who used to pay about six pounds annually towards the minister's Rate, We the subscribers do promise and engage to make that sum Twenty pounds annually as afores^d;—Provided that we may be cleared from all other Parish Taxes to the several places where we do now belong.

December 14th 1725 }
In Province of New Hamp^r }

We also will quit o^r right to the Twelve Pounds paid by the Isle of Shoals.

William Seavey
William Wallis
Thomas Rand
Samuel Brackett
John Lock
James Lock

Edward Lock
Benjamin Seavey
Samuel Wallis
Joshua Foss
Samuel Berry
Joseph Lock

William Lock
 Richard Goss
 Nathanael Rand
 William Marden
 Ezekiel Knowles
 Solomon Dowst
 Benjamin Seavey, jun
 Samuel Rand
 Philip Pain
 James Fuller
 William Gammon
 William Seavey, tertius
 Jethro Goss
 Amos Rand
 Joshua Rand
 William Marden jun
 William Lock, jr
 John Pain
 Thoms Rand, jun.
 James Shute
 William Rand
 Zach: Berry
 William Berry

James Marden
 Saml Dowst
 Ebenr Berry
 Orem Dowst
 Samuel Seavey, jun.
 Francis Lock
 Jethro Lock
 Samuel Lock
 Christopher Palmer
 John Garland
 David Smith
 Ebenr Philbrick
 Joh Knowles
 Stephen Berry
 Jonathan Lock
 John Lock, jun.
 Samuel Seavey
 Hezekiah Jenes
 Richard Jennes
 John Jennes
 Nehemiah Berry
 Thoms Jennes
 Nathl Berry.

Sandy Beach, Petition, Dec. 29, 1725.

Petition from the Parish of Rye, 1729.

To his Excellency William Burnet, Esq^r Capt. General & Governor in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamps^t in New England & To the Hon^{ble} the Council & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Assembly now setting,

The Humble Petition of the Parish of Rye in New Castle, in the Province of New Hamp^t

Humbly sheweth:

That whereas this Parish was established by a Special Act of General Assembly Apr. 30, 1726, and near one half of the freeholders & other Inhabitants of the same being Poled off to s^d Parish from other Towns, a considerable number of which did before belong to Hampton Town, & having no line fixed & settled between s^d Parish & Hampton, the s^d Parish are under ill conveniences respecting their Parish affairs, some moving out & Leaving the Burden of Taxes heavier upon the Remnant left, and some others moving in among us & settling in that part of the Parish that did belong to Hampton, which we are not impowered to Levy Taxes upon, nor to obledge to attend military exercises, nor to help in Repairing his Majesties High-ways in this Parish nor to assist in managing our other Parish affairs;—We, labouring under these & many other ill

conveniences, humbly prayeth your Excellency, the Hon^{ble} the Council & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives to make choice of a Committee of indifferent men to fix & settle a Line between us & Hampton Town.

So shall your Hum^{bl} Petitioners ever Pray, &c.

RICH ^d GOSS	} Selectmen
JOHN KNOWLES	
JOHN GARLAND	
	of s ^d
	Parish.

Dated at Rye

May 12, 1729.

In th House of Representatives.

Voted, That the hearing this Petition be suspended untill the fourth day of the next Session of the General Assembly and that a Copy of the Petition & this Vote be sent to the Select men of Hampton at charge of the Petitioners.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assⁿ

May 14th 1729.

In Council, eod. die

Read & Concurr'd.

R. Waldron, Cler. Coun.

In the House of Representatives,

Voted, That the prayer of the within Petition be so far granted y^t a Committee of indifferent p'sons be chosen & goe upon the spot & that a Plot be made and Bro't in to the Assⁿ by s^d Committee of the old P'ish of Hampton, with a Division of the North Hill part, alsoe of the whole P'ish of Rye, and alsoe of that part that belongs to Portsmouth & Greenland that is Powl'd off to Rye;—and make theire Return to the Gen^l Assembly next session for further consideration; and that the Petitioners pay the charges.

James Jeffry, Clr. Assⁿ

X^{br} y^e 13^h 1729.

Capt. Joshua Wingate } enters their Dissent ag^t the above vote.
& Mr John Sanburn }

X^{br} the 16, 1729. In the House of Representatives,

Voted, That Mr. Speaker Wiggans and Maj^r Paul Gerrish, Mr. Bartholomew Thing and Maj^r Nicholas Gillman & Lieut. Wm. Moore of Stratham or any three of them be a Committee for the ends above mentioned, to make Draught and that the old P'ish of Hampton & that part of Hampton called North Hill be alsoe notified of the time of Running the Lines, and that the Return be made to the Gen^l Assembly y^e third day of the sitting of the next Sessions of the Assⁿ and all parties then to appeare to make their objection (if any they have) why such Return may not be rec^d

James Jeffry, Clr. Assⁿ

In Council, Dec^r 17, 1729.

Read & concurred, wth both y^e above votes

R. Waldron, Cler. Con.

Petition from Selectmen of Rye, relating to the effects of a violent Storm, 1754.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth,
New Hampshire } Esq^r. Governour and Commander in
Chief, in and over his Majesty's Province
of New Hampshire, and the Hon^{ble} the House of Represent-
atives for said Province now in General Court sitting :

Humbly shews—James Marden and Joses Philbrick two of the Selectmen of the Parish of Rye in the Province aforesaid (being the major part thereof) in behalf of the said Parish : That on or about the Nineteenth day of June last past there was a Violent Thunder Storm and there fell a very considerable quantity of Rain & Hail which reach'd through the said Parish and Damaged all the Inhabitants of the said Parish (three or four familys only excepted) very much by shattering their houses and barns, breaking the glass windos almost the one half thereof through the said parish ; shattered the meeting-house and Parish house and Broke the glass thereof, that one hundred pounds old tenor will not be sufficient to repair the said Meeting and Parish house ; Destroy'd almost all the apples in the said Parish, with almost all the English and Indian corn then and there standing and growing, of one half of the said Inhabitants ; By means whereof the said Inhabitants are reduced to Miserable circumstances, with Regard to the fruits of the earth this year, And it will be as much as the said Inhabitants can do (and will be beyond the capacity of many) to repair their buildings and provide sustinence for themselves and cattle this year ; and as the said Parish is but a poor place and the said Inhabitants are at considerable charge among themselves over and above the Province Tax, which in itself is very heavy, and considering the circumstances of the said Parish will be insupportable as their dependence is on the fruits of the earth (which are now destroy'd.) Wherefore the said James Marden & Joses Philbrick pray in behalf of the said Parish that your Excellency and Honours will take the case of the said Inhabitants into your wise consideration, and Relieve the said Inhabitants by abating the whole or so much of the said Province Tax as your excellency and Honours in your great Wisdom shall think expedient, and your Petitioners in behalf of said Inhabitants as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

JAMES MARDEN
JOSSES PHILBRICK.

July 24, 1754.

Province of }
New Hamp^r } July 26, 1754.

In Council, read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} y^e Gent^l Assembly.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.

Petition for a Lottery to build a road, 1764.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & house of Representatives in General Assembly conven'd, this 8th day of May 1764.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Rye, & of the Inhab^{its} of the South West end of Portsmouth; *Humbly Sheweth*:—

That it would not only be very beneficial to them, but to all other Travellers, who pass from Portsm^o to Rye, or from Rye to Portsmouth, provided a Road might be had & obtain'd across the woods from or near Mr. Thomas Cotton's Farm in Long Lane so called, to the highway in Rye near to Mr. Wallis Foss's, which would make the travelling from Portsm^o to Rye or from Rye to Portsmouth much more convenient, as it will save eight miles in travel to & from nearer than the road now goes, as there is no highway from said Rye to Portsmouth except at the North East End or at the South West end of said Rye, both of said highways being at the extreame limits of said Parish of Rye, & being five miles distant from each other, which makes it difficult for your petitioners to send their wood &c. to market; which Road if obtain'd they think would be a General Good, & your Petitioners humbly conceive it might be had & obtain'd at the Cost & charge of seven hundred & fifty pounds new Tenor, but that your petitioners are not at present able in & of themselves to purchase said highway altho' so beneficial; Wherefore your petitioners humbly prays your Excellency & Honours, to grant them leave to bring in a Bill for a Lottery to enable them to effect the same & to be under such direction & Regulation as you in your great wisdom may think proper, & if any overplus arises thereby, to be disposed of as may be ordered by your Excellency & honours, & your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Joseph Jenness
Sam^l Jennes
Joseph Rand
Timothy Berry
Nathanel Jennes
Christ^t Gold
Jonath^a Brown
Job Jennes
Peter Johnson
Joseph Brown
Peter Johnson, jun.
Jonathan Fowl
Elijah Lock
Bickford Lang

Joseph Philbrick
Joseph Lock
Nathan Goss
Benj^a Garland
Jonathan Lock, jun.
Stephen Marden
Benj^a Marden
Ruben Motton
Sam^l Meservy
Robert Sanders
Job Foss
Joshua Weeks
Joseph Yeaton
Noah Sevey

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1970

1970

1970

Thomas Cotton
 John Furnuel
 John Tarlton
 Richard Tarlton
 James Tarlton
 Elias Tarlton, Jun.
 Jeremiah Berry
 Richard Lock
 Samuel Wells
 Joshua Rand
 Wallis Foss
 Ebenezer Marden
 James Marden
 Nathaniel Berry jun.
 John Sevey
 Nathaniel Cotton
 John Edmonds

Joseph Edmonds
 Bengmon Edmonds
 Thomas Cotton
 Elias Tarlton
 Thomas Clark
 Samuel Norton
 John Norton
 Nathan Norton
 Benjamin Tarlton
 Thomas Marden
 Israel Marden
 Thomas Cotton, jun.
 John Bennett
 Stephen Bennett
 Elias Tarlton, Sen.
 Joseph Langdon

Province of New Hampshire:

In the House of Representatives, May 10, 1764. This Petition being read, Voted, That the prayer thereof be granted & that the Petitioner^s have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

In Council, Jan^y 18th 1765.

Read & Concurred

T. Atkinson, jun. Sec^y.

SALEM.

[This Town formerly belonged to Methuen District, and appears to have been incorporated as a District in 1741-42, but not as a Town until 11 May, 1750 (1). It was cut off, when the line was established, from the Towns of Methuen and Dracut.]

Petition of Inhabitants of Methuen, 1741.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r and the Hon^{ble} Council of the Province of New Hampshire.

This Prayer of your humble Petitioners *show*, That, Whereas there has been a Petition lodged with your Secretary by Messrs. Henry Sanders and Benjamin Corning for a Township in that part of Methuen which has lately fallen into New Hampshire, with the westerly part of Haverhill as described in said Petition: This is the prayer of your Petitioners that said Petition be granted.

Jan^y 28th 1741-2.

Samuel Currier
 Richard Kimball
 Samuel Parker

Joseph Rite
 Richard Carlton
 Edward Carlton

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Daniel Curey
 Pengaman Hilton
 Benony Rowl
 John Rowl
 Samuel Rowl
 Benony Rowl, jun
 Josiah Rowl
 Timothy Swan
 Seth Patey
 Richard Patey
 David Sanders
 Israel Young
 Jonathan Wheeler
 Abraham Ames
 Bengaman Wheeler
 Stephen Wheeler
 Nathan Wheeler
 Jonathan Wheeler, jun
 John Gillmor
 John Coffran
 John Amy ?
 John Loul
 Richard Dow
 David Louel
 Daniel Pensha
 Richard Kally
 Abiel Kally

Timothy Johnson
 William Johnson
 David Dow
 Nathaniel Dow
 Josiah Clough
 Abel Asten
 Jonathan Corlis
 Peter Youring
 Joseph Pesely X mark.
 Isaac Clough
 Ebenezer Ayer
 John Hall
 Robert Ellenwood
 Jonathan Woodbery
 Nathaniel Woodbery
 Samuel Giles
 Ebenezer Woodbery
 John Giles
 John Ober
 John Ober, jun
 Oliver Sanders
 Joseph Sanders
 John Page
 Samuel Sanders
 William Sanders
 Timothy Sanders

Petition of Methuen for redress of grievances as to taxes.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Governour-in-chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire,

May it please your Excellency :—

The humble request of your Petitioners, *Sheweth*—That whereas your Excellency and Counsel have been pleased to erect a District in that part of Methuen and Dracut lately fallen into New Hampshire, according to which the Inhabitants of said District as Incorporated by your Excellency have assembled and chose officers according to your Instructions, and levied the Province taxes; and inasmuch as your Petitioners who live in that part of said Methuen which is adjacent to Londonderry or Windham, are likewise taxed by said Derry or Windham officers and s^t Derry or Windham constable or Collector has forcibly taken away a considerable quantity of our valuable goods and carried them off under pretence that it was for our Rates towards support of the government, though we have paid our Proportion of Province taxes already to our Constable, therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency would be pleased to take some effectual method to prevent such disorders for the time to come

and to redress our grievances, and likewise that your Excellency would be pleased to take some care that we may be put into a capacity for the support of the Ministry which is in Danger of being obstructed by reason of our unsettled posture; and likewise that we may be enabled to carry on our other affairs.

Thus Pray your Petitioners.

Methuen, Desember y^e 25 : 1742.

Henry Sanders
Eben^r Woodbery
Nath^l Woodbery
John Giles
Timothy Sanders
John Ober
Benj^a Corning.

Malachi Corning
Robert Ellenwood
John Hall
Jonathan Woodbery
William Sanders
Oliver Sanders.

Letter from Theo. Atkinson Esq. to Selectmen of Londonderry & Windham, 1742.

Portsmouth, Dec. 28th 1742.

GENTLEMEN—

It has been represented by some of the Inhabitants on the District of Methuen, as settled by Act of the Gen^l Assembly that the Constables of Londonderry have levied the Province taxes on s^l Inhabitants, who had before paid their Province tax to the officer chosen by said District;—a copy of said representation you have herewith sent you for your Government:

I am therefore by his Excellency's order to advise you to return the said Taxes so levied to the respective persons, from whom they have been taken, unless they have heretofore been rated to your Town or Parrish, as the contrary behaviour may tend to create disorder & confusion in the Government.

THEO^l ATKINSON, Sec^y.

To the Selectmen of Londonderry
or the Parish of Windham.

Sent by Mr. John Ober,
the day above s^d.

Petition for a Parish, 1743.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Command^r in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp^r the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly convened, June 25, 1743.

The Humble Petition of John Ober & Daniel Peasely as a Committee in behalf of the Inhabitants of a place called Methuen in said Province, *Shews*:—

That the said Inhabitants are in an unsettled state & condition, not being within any Parish or Town, nor having any Power or authority to raise money for the support of the Min-

istry, Schools & other necessary charges among them, for want of which they are involved in many Difficulties which are too obvious to need a particular enumeration :

That what was done by this Government as to making of Districts having relation to the Province tax only, could be no Relief to the said Inhabitants in Regard of the Difficulties above referr'd to, had that regulation continued, and as they have & shall always cheerfully contribute their proportion towards the support of the Government to which they belong, they are encouraged to hope for & depend on the justice of this Government to grant them those aids which are necessary to their subsistence & well being, & by virtue whereof they will be the better Enabled to pay their part of the Public Taxes :

That they have been now a long time in this uncomfortable situation and can't possibly any longer support y^e Gospel Ministry among them under their present circumstances, & live too remote from any Town or Parish to enjoy it with them.

WHEREFORE, your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most humbly pray that they may be Incorporated into a Parish or Precinct by the following Boundaries : viz. Beginning at the East End of a Pond commonly called & known by the name of the Captain's Pond, & from thence to Run to the late dwelling house of one Richard Petty now deceased. upon a strait line, and from thence to the North part of Pollicy Pond so called, & so running by said pond to the South West part thereof, and then on a West course until it comes to Dracut Line & then by Dracut Line till it comes to the Province Line & so running by that till it comes to the place first mentioned : and invested with the usual Parish Powers & Privileges within this Province, and your Petitionors, as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOHN OBER
DANIEL PEASELY.

In the House of Representatives, June 25, 1743.

The within Petition read, & Voted that the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of Windham (forth with) with a copy of this Petition and the Votes thereon, and that they appeare Thursday the Seventh of July next (to shew cause if any, why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted) and if the General Assembly be not then sitting, then to appeare the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Assembly at their next sessions ; and that the Constables & Collectors of Windham do not make distress for any Rates or Taxes : Except for the Province tax, until after the hearing above intended.

James Jeffrey, Cler. Assⁿ

In Council, July 2, 1743.

Read & concurr'd.

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^r.

Eodem die—Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of Part of Methuen to be a Township, 1746.

To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of the Province of New Hampshire:

The humble Petition of us the subscribers, *sheweth*:

That whereas the Inhabitants of the District of Methuen, viz. those who are included within the following lines, that is to say, Beginning where the Line between the Province of New Hampshire and the Massachusetts Bay crosses the Ancient line between Haverhill and Methuen, from thence Northwest-erly upon s^d Line to about 2½ miles. to a Red Oak tree marked, from thence westerly to the North East end of Pollicy Pond, so called, from thence thro' s^d Pond to the westerly end of s^d Pond, from thence westerly to Dracut Line so called, from thence Southerly upon Dracut Line to the above s^d Line between the Provinces, from thence upon s^d Province line to the bounds first mentioned; Those Inhabitants included in the above^d Lines have been at charges in erecting a meeting House and settling a Minister. and are commodiously situated to attend the worship of God in s^d District: And whereas the Inhabitants included in s^d Lines consist of but about Forty-five Families, who are of a different Perswasion from the Inhabitants of Windham, they being Presbyterians and we being Congregationalists—

We therefore your Petitioners pray that there may be a Township erected according to the above mentioned boundaries which boundaries are inclusive of us the subscribers and your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Methⁿ District,

April 4, 1746.

Peter Merrill
Eben^r Woodbery
William Sanders
Josiah Clough
Moses Morgan
John Hall
John Hill
Jonathan Woodbery
Robert Corgel
Isaac Clough
John Ober
Joseph Peaslee
Oliver Sanders
Benj^a Corning
Sam^l Sanders.
Daniel Peaslee

Nath^l Dow
Abiall Pittman
Nathaniel Woodbery
Richard Kimball
Samuel Currier
Samuel Parker
Oliver Kimball
Rapha Hall
Josiah Emerson
John Merrill
Isaac Clough, jun.
Henry Sanders
Robert Elmwood
John Ober, jun.
John Giles.

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Petition in relation to taxes, 1746.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r
 New Hamp^r } Governor and Commander in chief in and
 over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp-
 shire, the Honorable his Majesty's Council &
 House of Representatives in General As-
 sembly convened, the second day of Decem-
 ber, Anno Domini 1746.

The Petition of Daniel Peasley Esqr. & John Ober, Inhabitants of that part of Methuen so called, that lyeth in this Province in behalf of sundry Inhabitants therein, most humbly *shews*: That by virtue of the District Act so called, they have rated sundry Persons and their Estates to pay their Province Rates there, and also that the same Persons and their estates are claimed by the Parish of Windham in s^t Province, and there rated to pay their Province Rates;—whereby they are twice rated; which lays such persons under a great burden and difficulty, and that the s^t persons and their Estates pay all their other Rates to Methuen afore s^t: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency and honours to order that such persons and their Estates may pay their Province Rates to Methuen only, & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

DANIEL PEASLE
 JOHN OBER.

In Council, December the 5th 1746.

Read & ordered to be sent down.

Theo^d Atkinson, Sec^r

Petition for a Township, 1749.

To his Excellency the Governour, the Honourable his Majesties Council of the Province of New Hampshire:

The Petition of us the subscribers Inhabitants of the District of Methuen, *sheweth*—

That notwithstanding the care of this Government in forming of us into a District, and notwithstanding those Inhabitants of Windham who used to pay Taxes to Methuen are by special Act of Court obliged still to do it; yet since a Number of of those who were formerly of our Society continue in the Massachusetts-Bay Government, and since the Act of forming us Into a District is but temporary, it appears to us impracticable for us to fix a settled support upon the Rev^d Abner Bayley our Minister for the time to come, both upon account of our small number and upon account of our District being but a temporary settlement; which makes him in-

dulge tho'ts of a removal from among us; for having carried on the work of the Ministry among us for near ten years past without any such fixed support, now calls upon us to settle affairs with him, which we ought to do, otherwise must expect that he will remove from among us. Further, that since a number of the Inhabitants of the westerly End of the District of Haverhill are very conveniently situated to joyn with us, from which considerations your Petitioners humbly pray—That a Township may be incorporated out of the District of Methuen with such an addition out of the Westerly end of the District of Haverhill as may be sufficient to support the Gospel among us and carry on our other Town affairs.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Meth. District, Jan. 1, 1749.

Daniel Massey
Israel Young
Barney Rowell, jun.
John Rowell
Josiah Rowell
Joseph Sanders
Sam'l Sanders
Samuell Rowell
Joseph Peaslee
Ebenezer Ayer
Richard Kelly
Daniel Peaslee
John Bayley
Peter Merrill

Richard Kimball
John Page
Jacob Beetel
John Beetel
Timothy Beetel
John Merrill
John Hastings
Nathaniel Merrill
Robert Corgil
Joshua Bayley
Josiah Emerson
Samuel Currier
Rapha Hall
Josiah Clough.

Letter from Daniel Peaslee to Thomas Packer, Esq'

SIR—When I was at your House I desired that you would represent our difficult circumstances to his Excellency and Council and endeavor to obtain a Township by taking part of Haverhill District and that the Line should be Southeast from the South Easterly Corner of London Derry being a Red Oak near the widow Patee's Corn Mill; however having more fully examined that Line find that it will extend too far Easterly upon the Line between the Provinces, for having drawn a Plan which I herewith send you, the Easterly line of which is South Twenty three Degrees East from the above said Tree, but upon scanning this Plan find that this is as much too little as the other was too much, and accordingly should be oblig'd to you if you would use your endeavours that the above said Line should be from the above said Tree, South Thirty four Degrees East. What we aim at and desire to have are those Inhabitants that were by the settlement of the Massachusetts Bay Government, but are cut off by the Province Line, of Mr. Bachellers Parish.

SIR—I herewith transmit to you a Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Methuen District to be laid before the Governour and Council and as this represents our small number so we desire that all those who have been of late years obliged to pay taxes to the support of the ministry &c. to Methuen District, whose number is but small, together

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with those Inhabitants on the westerly end of Haverhill as above specified should be incorporated into a Township: Sir, we are ignorant whether any thing further will be necessary; for which reason we should be obliged to you, if you will send up if any thing is. Sir,—Excuse this Trouble, Your endeavors to serve us will lay a fresh obligation upon this People and more especially upon

Your Humble Servant,

DANIEL PEASLEE.

Methuen District,

Jan. 24, 1749.

To Thomas Packer, Esq.

[The Plans above referred to may be found in MS. Town Papers, Vol. VI. pp. 173-183. Ed.]

Petition for redress of grievances, 1756.

To his Excellency the Governor, The Honourable his Majesty's Council, & the House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers, *Sheweth*—

That your Petitioners formerly Inhabitants of the District of Methuen now of Salem were included in Windham & s^d District at the same time, and accordingly were taken in both valuations for Windham & Methuen District but obliged by Act to pay Province taxes to Windham, which we did pay in the years 1743, 1744, 1745, 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1752, for which years there are arrears due from the District afores^d to the Province which by Act of Court are to be paid in the years 1755 & 1756; but no arrears due from Windham,—but we being since included in Salem are taxed to s^d arrears due from the District afores^d, by which means your petitioners are greatly injured in the Premises.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that the aboves^d difficulties may be removed & your Petitioners redressed in s^d grievances & your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Salem, Feb. 2, 1756.

John Ober
John Dinsmoor
Robert Spear
Oliver Kimball
Israel Ober
Timothy Sanders
John Hall
John Ober, jun.
Robert Ellinwood

Eben^r Woodbery
Andrew Balch
Samuel Armor
Joseph Merrill
Gerg. Corning
John Corning
Joseph Hull
John Hall, y^e third.

In Council, Feb^y 25th 1756.

Read & order'd to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} House
Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.



Province of } In the House of Representatives, Feb^y 26, 1756.
 New Hamp^r } This Petition being read, Voted, That the prayer of ^y
 Petition be granted, & That the Petitioners be exempted
 from paying any arrears of Province Tax to Salem before the year
 1753, it appearing they had paid their Province Tax to Windham.

Andrew Clarkson, Clk.

In Council, Feb^y 27th 1756.

Read & concurr'd

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^r

Eodem Die,

consented to.

B. WENTWORTH.

Certificate.

Province of }
 New Hampshire } These may Certify whom it may concern that we
 the under subscribers having been Constables for the
 Parish of Windham from its first incorporation untill the year 1752,
 and have in our several terms of serving Received the Province Tax
 from every person assessed in the Lists committed to us that then lived
 within the original Bounds of Windham, as witness our hands.

Windham, Jan^y 28, 1756.

James Gilmore, in 1743
 David Gregg, in 1744
 Alex^r Park, in 1745
 John Kyle, in 1746
 John Vance, in 1747
 Joseph Waugh, in 1748
 Francis Smylie, in 1749
 William Thorn, in 1752

A List of the men that served as Constables in Windham, since it was first Incorporated untill the year 1752.

Nath ^l Hemphill, in	1742	Joseph Waugh, in	1748
James Gillmore, in	1743	Francis Smylie, in	1749
David Gregg, in	1744	Daniel Clyd, in	1750
Alexander Park, in	1745	Joseph Clyd, in	1751
John Kyle, in	1746	William Thorn, in	1752
John Vance, in	1747		

Another Petition for redress, &c.

To his Excellency the Governor, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's
 Council & house of Representatives in General Court
 assembled.

The Humble Petition of us ^y^e subscribers, *sheweth*

That your Petitioners Inhabitants of Salem paid our Pro-
 portion of the Province Taxes to Windham in those several
 years in which the District of Methuen were not taxed to the
 Province, & that the Selectmen of Salem for the year past
 taxed us to the said District Province Rate laid upon s^d Dis-
 trict upon Acc^t of arrears due from them, by which means

your Petitioners are injured in the Premises; your Petitioners therefore pray that you will be pleased to give order that your Petitioners should be eased in the Premises & your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Salem, July 5th, 1756.

Sam^l Crowel
Jon^a Morgan
Nath^l Woodberry
Edward Bayley
Jon^r Woodbery
William Leech
John Giles

Israel Woodbery
James Twoddel
Joshua Thorndike
John Ashby
William Sanders
Abial Barker
Hugh Campall

Council, October 13, 1756.

Read & Ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} House.
Theo. Atkinson Sec^y.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Octo^r 14th, 1756.
New Hamp^t } The within Petition being read, Ordered, That the Petitioners be heard on said Petition on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the first day of Nov^r next ensuing & that the Petitioners at their own cost & charge cause the Selectmen of Salem in said Province to be served with a copy of said Petition & this order of Court thereon, to appear & shew cause if any they have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

Andrew Clarkson, Clk.

In Council, Eod^m die

Read & concurr'd

(A true copy)

Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

SALISBURY.

[Salisbury was originally granted by Massachusetts and was known by the name of Bakers-Town. It was afterwards granted by the Masonian proprietors, 25th October 1749, and was then called Stevens-Town from Col. Ebenezer Stevens, a distinguished citizen of Kingston, many years a representative of that Town. It was incorporated by Charter from the government of New Hampshire, March 1st 1768, when it took the name of Salisbury; it originally included that part of Franklin which lies west of the Merrimack river. Ed.]

A guard provided for Salisbury as a frontier town. (1)

Province of } At a Special Convention of the members of the Genl
New Hamp^t } Assembly at Portsmouth on the 22^d day of Aug^t 1754
in pursuance of an order from his Excellency the Governor, to the Sheriff of s^d Province to summon the Members to Meet, as on file:

Whereas his Excellency the Governor by his Message of the twenty-first Instant takes notice of sundry Hostilities committed upon sundry

(1) See Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 26, 27, 296-309. Ed.

of his Majesty's subjects at a place called Stevens-Town within this Province by Indians (suppos'd to be of the St. Francis Indians) and that the Inhabitants on the Frontier are much exposed and so put in fear, that they stand in need of Protection and help:—Therefore it is agreed upon by the members of the House of Representatives that there be the number of sixty men enlisted or Impress'd (and his Excellency is hereby desired to give orders for the enlist^s or Impress^s y^t number) for the protection and defence of the Frontiers, not exceeding the space of two months, and that the allowance for their pay subsistence and amunition be the same as at the latter end of the last Indian War, and in order for a fund therefor, it is further agreed that there be so much of the Bills of Credit of y^e Interest of the Twenty-five Thousand Pounds loan in the hands of the Treasurer, borrowed as will be sufficient for the same; and that for the Replacing the same in the Treasury it is further agreed, That there be a tax layd on the Polls and Estates within this Province agreeable to the last proportion to be paid by the 30th day of Decemb^r 1755, and that there shall be a Tax Bill for that end as soon as the Gen^l Assembly shall be in a condition to act in a legislative capacity.

Meshech Weare, Speaker.

Petition for aid in settling Salisbury.

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General court Assembled:

The Petition of the Proprietors & Settlers of a Tract of Land in the Province afores^d comonly called *Stevens-Town*, humbly *Sheweth*:

That the s^d Proprietors have been at great expence in settling s^e Tract & encourageing the same, and in the late Wars have been at considerable cost to defend the same by Building a fort thereon & paying soldiers to keep the same, even at our own private expence: and there are now many families settled and many more settling; We have also Built a Saw Mill & are building a grist Mill, & yet there are costly duties to be performed, such as the building a Meeting-house, settling a Minister &c. And the s^d Petitioners being in no capacity to raise money for the Defraying these & other incidental charges; We, therefore Humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours will be pleas'd to add to our cost & labour this further encouragement to settle the waste lands, viz. To make an Act according to y^{our} Excell^y's & Honours Wisdom that will enable the s^d Proprietors & settlers to raise moneys for the carrying on their settlement & defraying other Necessary charges that

may arise for the future; And so your Petitioners shall as in duty bound ever pray. &c.

TRUEWORTHY LAD,

In behalf & by order of the Proprietors and settlers.

June the 12th day, 1765.

In Council, June 20th 1765.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

T. Atkinson jun. Sec^y.

Province of }
New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives, June 20th 1765.

This Petition being read, Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted so far as that the Petitioner have liberty to bring in a bill accordingly.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, Eod^m die

Read & concurr'd.

T. Atkinson, jun. Sec^y.

SANBORNTON.

[Sanbornton was granted by the Masonian proprietors, in 1748, to several persons of the name of Sanborn, and others; and was settled in 1765 and 1766 by John Sanborn, David Duston, Andrew Rowen and others. It was incorporated, March 1, 1770. Rev. Joseph Woodman was ordained their minister in November, 1771, when there were about fifty families in town. ED.]

Petition to be exempted from taxation.

Sanborn Town, January y^e 8th 1768.

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief, in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England:

The Humble Petition of y^e Inhabitants of Sanborn Town: We, the Inhabitants of this Town, Promicing our selves your Excellency's Protection, Both in our Public & Private interests, Humbly beg y^e Liberty of Declaring to your Excellency, y^e Present Condition of this infant Town, which is as followeth, viz: We have thirty-two Familys in Town, & a number more we expect will some move in, & we doubt not But that in a few years we shall if Prospered, be a flourishing Town, able to support our familys, and be a help to y^e Publick, But at Present we are under a necessity of going to other Towns for meny things to support our selves and our Cattle which are but very few, y^e time Being so very short since we moved into Town, there Being no more than seven familys

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
530 SOUTH EAST ASIAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60607
TEL: 773-936-5000
FAX: 773-936-5001
WWW: WWW.CHEM.UCHICAGO.EDU

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1997
FROM: [illegible]
TO: [illegible]
SUBJECT: [illegible]
[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible, appearing to be a list of references or a detailed report. It contains several paragraphs of text and possibly a table or list of items.]

that have Been in Town so long as two years, & they were Poor People that mov'd in for y^e sake of Cetching a few fish to support their familys; many of us have Been here But one year & some not so long, our Land is very heavy to clear & after it is clear^d & affords us a considerable Crop of indian Corn it is next to imposable to Plow the Land for some years by Reson of y^e stumps & Roots; there hath Been But a very few acres ever Plow^d in Town, not more then six or seven men that have Plow^d any & on y^e whole it is not without a great deal of Difficulty that we Bring y^e year about, Being obliged to spend on the Store we had Before we moved up, those that had any & those that had not, to Run in debt many of us or be beholden to friends, which cant we humbly conceive be thought strange considering that this was all a wilderness so very lately.

Now with submission to your Excellency's Pleasure, our humble Petition is, that your Excellency would Consider our Circumstances & Release us from paying any tax for a Little time:—your Excellency granting which we Humbly conceive will be an advantage, not only to your humble Petitioners But also to the Publick as it will enable us to make the greater Progress in clearing our farms & so of consequence to Pay y^e greater tax which at present could be but very small, having but a Little to pay for.

We remain your Loyal humble servants

James Cates	Edward Kelly
Thomas Sencler	Daniel Samborn
John Gale	Benjamin Samborn
John Samborn	Eben ^r Morrison
Josiah Samborn	Thomas Gilman
Winthrop Hoyt	Benjamin Darling
William Kineston	Nath ^l Burley
Satchel Clark	John Folsom
Cele Weeks	Jon ^a Lary
Daniel Lary	Solomon Cope
Aaron Samborn	Sam ^l Shepard
David Dustin	Moses Danforth
Jonathan Smith	Andrew Roen
Josiah Kentfield	John Gipson
Jacob Smith	Sam ^l Smith
Jonathan Thomas	Philip Hunt
Thomas Lyford	Dan ^l Fifield.

[NOTE. The above names are mostly written by one hand: which may account for the spelling of *Sanborn*, uniformly with an *m*. ED.]

The first part of the chapter discusses the importance of the environment in the development of the individual. It emphasizes that the environment is not just a passive backdrop but an active force that shapes our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. This section explores how social interactions, cultural norms, and physical surroundings contribute to our overall development.

The second part of the chapter focuses on the role of the family in the development of the individual. It examines how family structure, parenting styles, and family dynamics influence a child's growth and well-being. The text highlights the importance of a supportive and nurturing family environment for healthy development.

The third part of the chapter discusses the impact of education on the development of the individual. It explores how schools and educational institutions provide a structured environment for learning and socialization. The text emphasizes the role of teachers and the importance of a quality education in shaping a child's future.

The final part of the chapter discusses the role of the individual in the development of the environment. It emphasizes that individuals are not just passive recipients of environmental influences but active participants who can shape their surroundings. The text encourages a sense of responsibility and agency in creating a positive and sustainable environment.

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire.

To his Excellency, John Wentworth, Esq^r Captain General,
Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province afore-
said, In Council.

The Petition of Joseph Hoit of Stratham & his Associates,
humbly *sheweth* :

That your petitioners being agents for, & interested in the
Township of Sanborn (so called) in which there are upwards
of Forty Familys settled, who are very desirous of being in-
corporated into a Town, for many good reasons, humbly re-
quest your Excellency & Honours to grant them that privilege
by a Charter of Incorporation as usual, and your petitioners as
in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH HOIT
JOSIAH SANBURN.

Portsm^a 1 March 1770.

Petition for the appointment of a Justice of the Peace.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq^r
New Hampshire } Captain General, Governor & Commander
in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province
of New Hampshire, In Council.

The humble Petition of the Subscribers, Proprietors of the
Town of Sanbornton in said Province *Sheweth* :—

That your Petitioners humbly conceive that it would be
greatly for the Benefit of the Inhabitants as well as the Pro-
prietors of said Town to have one of the Inhabitants of said
Town Comissionated as a Justice of the Peace there, and hav-
ing understood that the Inhabitants have already petitioned
your Excellency that Daniel Sandborn Esq^r of that Town may
be Appointed by your Excellency to that honourable Place,
We begg Leave to join them in the said request and Pray your
Excellency to appoint him accordingly (and do heartily recom-
mend him as the most suitable Person for keeping and Pro-
moting Peace & Concord amongst the said Inhabitants). And
your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

July 10th 1771.

Sam^l Folsem
Joseph Hoit
Theophilus Rundlet, jun.
Jethro Person
Edward Taylor
Josiah Folsom
John Fogg

Abraham Perkins
David Fogg
Jonathan Rawlings
Joseph Smith
William Chase, jun
Samuel Fogg
Jeremiah Sanborn

John Taylor
David Burlly
Joseph Clark
Ezra Barker
Josiah Sanborn
Josiah Dearbon
John Dearbon
Daniel Hoit

John Folsom
Eben^r Samborn
Jonathan Jewett
Jacob Jewett
John Sanborn
Joseph Hoit, jun.
John Hopkinson.

SHELBURNE.

[As early as 1775, David and Benjamin Ingalls commenced a settlement at Shelburne, and not long afterwards several families were added. The town was not incorporated until December 13, 1820. ED.]

Petition of Daniel Rindge, Esq^r

Province of New Hampshire :

To his Excellency, John Wentworth, Esq^r Governor in Chief in & over said Province The Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council in s^d Province, in Council convened 25th May, 1770.

The Humble Petition of Daniel Rindge of Portsmouth in said Province, Esq^r in behalf of himself and the other Proprietors of Shelburne in said Province, *Sheweth* :

That the Township of said Shelburne is very mountainous and Rockey, by means whereof a considerable Part of the same is and ever will be useless to the said Proprietors. Wherefore, your Petit^{er} humbly prays, in behalf of himself and said Proprietors, that your Excellency and Honors wou'd be pleased to make them an additional Grant of Land agreeable to the Plan herewith exhibited, or in any other manner thought advisable, and your Petition^r shall ever pray.

DANIEL RINGE.

Granted 4th of July, 1770.

SOCIETY-LAND.

[Incorporated 14th January, 1774 (1). Ed.]*Petition for Incorporation.*

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq. Captain General, Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire & Vice Admiral of the same &c. the Honourable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Petition of the subscribers, Inhabitants on that part of that Tract of Land known by the Name of the Society Land, Humbly *Shew*:—That we are Purchasors from the Purchasion, of John Tufton Mason Esq^r Patent, and have not Legal Authority to oblige any person to support the Gospel, Nor to Build Mills or Bridges, or clear Roads &c. & must either Live without all these great Privileges, or a few men bear the whole expence, which will ruin their families.

Therefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Excellency & Honors to Incorporate the Tract of Land hereafter described into a Township. with Town privileges, (viz.) Beginning at the North West Corner of Francestown, from thence East to the Township of Weare, from thence North to the Township of Henniker, from thence West Bounding partly on Henniker, & partly on Hillsborough six miles, from thence South to the first bounds mentioned: & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray, &c.

Society Land, April 26th 1773.

William Forsith
James Grames
Asa Dresser
David Wilson
Benja^a Bradford
Thomas Aiken
Joseph Mills
William Aiken
Robert Mills
William Farson
Nathaniel Sweetser

Ephraim Abbot
Nemiah Aiken
William McKeen
John Wiley
William Robson
John Bayls
Francis Grames
John Lyon
Samuel Paten
Alexander Hogg.

(1) See Prov. Pap. Vol. VII. p. 24. Ed.



SOMERSWORTH.

[Somersworth was formerly a part of Dover; it was made a Parish Dec. 19, 1729. and incorporated April 22^d, 1754. The settlement was probably begun as early as 1650, by William Wentworth, John Hall, Wm. Stiles and others. ED.]

July 23, } *A true list of all the Train Souldiers in the*
1746. } *Parish of Sumersworth, under com'd of Tho^t*
 } *Wallingford, Capt. arc as followeth, viz.*

Sergt. John Ricker	Jonathan Wentworth, jun
Serg. Philip Stackpole	Nathl Nock
Serg. Thomas Tebbets	Jonathan Merrow
Serg. William Wentworth	Ebenr Heard
Corpo Ebenezer Garland	John Wentworth
Corpo Samuel Joanes	Hatevil Roberts
Corpo Samuel Rendall	William Hanson
Thomas Stevens } Drums	Benja Roberts
Richard Gorden }	Lemeul Perkins
Samuel Downs	Drisco Nock
Ebenr Wentworth	William Stackpole
Joseph Wentworth	James Foy
John Mason	Joseph Varney, jun
Joseph Hussey	Elipha. Cromuel
John Hall	Daniel Smith
Daniel Goodin	Meturin Rickers
Samuel Hall	Benja Heard
James Hall	James Stackpole
Benja Wentworth	John Calland
Ephraim Rickers	Isaac Hanson
Melurin Rickers	Daniel Hanson
Abram. Mimmey	Richard Philpott
Samuel Nock	John Sulevant
Elezr Wyer	Saml Allien
Henry Nock	Edward Allien
Thomas Tebbets jun	John Muzert
Benja Twombly	Samuel Weymouth
Ezekiel Wentworth	James Nock
Ebenr Roberts	Lane Roberts, jun
Thomas Wentworth	Ichabod Rawlins
George Rickers, Ter.	Ebenr Downs, jun
James Kiney	John Rickers, jun
Robert Cole	Joshua Roberts
Benja Stanton	Terah Sprage
James Clements	Daniel Libbee
Moses Tebbets	Neal Vickers
Saml Wentworth	Dodepher Garland
John Vicker	Richard Goodin, jun
John Lebrock	Benja Warren
Samul Austin	Samuel Roberts
Benja Austin	Francis Roberts
Edward Eliot	Saml Downs, jun
George Rickers, jun.	Saml. Jones, jun.
Samuel Wentworth, jun	Joseph Hussey, jun.



THE
HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF LONDON
FROM THE
FIRST
SETTLING OF THE
TOWNE
TO THE
PRESENT
TIME
BY
JOHN STOW.
1618.

Ebenr Roberts, jun.
 Job Clements Jun
 John Ferall
 Zebr Coason
 Elipha. Randall
 Mark Wentworth
 Joseph Richardson

Tristram Heard
 William Chadwick
 William Downs
 Peter Cooke
 John Downs
 Noah Cross

A true List as Attest^d by me. Total 101.

Petition for Town Priviledges, 1743.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and the Honourable the House of Representatives for the Province afores^d in General Assembly convened:

The Humble Petition of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Summersworth within the s^d Province humbly *sheweth*:—

That the s^d Parish being sett off a seperate Parish by an Act of the General Assembly made and passed in the third year of his present Majesty's Reign whereby the Inhabitants of s^d Parish are invested with all the Powers and Priviledges of a Parish as to maintain an Orthodox Gospel Minister their poore and School and to choose all Parish officers, now the growing charge of maintaining the minister, poore and school and other necessary charges arising insomuch that the Rates for this present year are six shillings & Eight pence on the head or four pence per pound in the new Tenor which makes the taxes very high, and our Numbers being small, also the Land not taken up is so mean that there is but little probability of our numbers increasing, as also that when we have chosen a Collector to gather the Parish Assessment & he having served in that troublesome office hath beene Re-chosen by the Town of Dover as Constable, which office he hath been Obliged to serve in or otherwise to pay his fine, and also if any person that was chosen by s^d Parish as Collector and Refused to serve there was no Law to compel him to pay his fine:—Wherefore to Remedy the above Grievances your Humble Petitioners Humbly Pray that your Excellency and Honours would be pleased By an Act of General Assembly to Invest us with the priviledges and Powers of a Town, and a small matter to enlarge our Boundaries according or near our first Petition: viz. To begin at a place in Quocheco River called the Gulf and from thence on a Straight Line to the southern side of Varney's Great Hill, and from thence to run on a North West

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
DR. J. H. BROWN	123 Main St.	Chicago	Ill.
DR. W. C. DAVIS	456 Oak St.	St. Paul	Minn.
DR. R. E. FOSTER	789 Elm St.	Portland	Me.
DR. L. M. GIBSON	101 Pine St.	Boston	Mass.
DR. A. J. HARRIS	234 Cedar St.	Philadelphia	Pa.
DR. T. K. JONES	567 Birch St.	San Francisco	Calif.
DR. M. N. KELLEY	890 Spruce St.	Seattle	Wash.
DR. P. Q. RICHARDS	112 Willow St.	Denver	Colo.
DR. S. T. SMITH	345 Ash St.	Indianapolis	Ind.
DR. V. W. TAYLOR	678 Hickory St.	Cincinnati	Ohio
DR. X. Y. WALKER	901 Poplar St.	New Orleans	La.
DR. Z. A. WHITE	1234 Maple St.	Los Angeles	Calif.

The following is a list of the names of the members of the American Medical Association who have been elected to the office of President for the year 1910. The names are listed in alphabetical order of their last names. The names of the members who have been elected to the office of President for the year 1910 are: Dr. J. H. Brown, Dr. W. C. Davis, Dr. R. E. Foster, Dr. L. M. Gibson, Dr. A. J. Harris, Dr. T. K. Jones, Dr. M. N. Kelley, Dr. P. Q. Richards, Dr. S. T. Smith, Dr. V. W. Taylor, Dr. X. Y. Walker, and Dr. Z. A. White.

The following is a list of the names of the members of the American Medical Association who have been elected to the office of President for the year 1910. The names are listed in alphabetical order of their last names. The names of the members who have been elected to the office of President for the year 1910 are: Dr. J. H. Brown, Dr. W. C. Davis, Dr. R. E. Foster, Dr. L. M. Gibson, Dr. A. J. Harris, Dr. T. K. Jones, Dr. M. N. Kelley, Dr. P. Q. Richards, Dr. S. T. Smith, Dr. V. W. Taylor, Dr. X. Y. Walker, and Dr. Z. A. White.

point of the Compass to the end of the Township and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Dover, May 19th 1743.

Paul Wentworth
Gershom Wentworth
William Wentworth
Moses Stevens
Thomas Miller
Saml Randal
Ezekiel Wentworth
John Wentworth
Loue Roberts
Philip Yetton
Lane Roberts
Joseph Ricker
John Ricker
Samuel Wentworth
Jeremiah Rawlings
James Clement
John Sullivan
Ephraim Wentworth
Garshom Downes
Thomas Downes
John Downs
John Drew
Moses Carr
Thomas Nock
Nathaniel Nock
Benja Twombly
John Ricker

Nathaniel Ricker
Phinias Ricker
John Robertes
Daniel Smith
Ebenezer Robearts
Alexander Roberts
Richard Downs
Silvanus Nock
Samuel Nock
Benja Wamyorth
Daniel Goodin
James Hobbs
Richard Goodin
Jonathan Merrow
Daniel Plumer
Benja Mason
John Mason
Saml Walton
Joshua Stakpole
George Ricker
William Stakpole
Joseph Wentworth
Samuel Stakpole
Joshua Robards, junr
Philip Stakpole
Samuel Downs

In the House of Representatives, December 1, 1743.

The within Petition read, and voted That the petitioners at their cost serve the Select men of Dover with a copy of the Petition and votes thereon, and that they appeare before y^e General Assembly y^e 2^d day of Jan^y next, if y^e Ass^m be then sitting; if not, on the third day of the sitting of the Gen^l Ass^m at their next sessions, to shew cause (if any) why the prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

In Council, Dec^r 2, 1743.

Read & Concurr^d.

Theo. Atkinson, Sec^y.

Eodem Die, .

assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

SOUTH HAMPTON.

[Was incorporated by Charter, May 25, 1742. Ed.]

Petition of sundry inhabitants to be set off, &c.

To his Excell^y Bening Wentworth Esq^r Captⁿ Gen^l and Govern^r in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in N. England and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council and Representatives in Gen^l Court assembled September 14th 1742.

The Petition of sundry of y^e Inhabitants of the Est part of Salisbury which by the runing the new Line fall into the Province of New Hampshire and (as we are informed) are included in the late charter granted for y^e Township of South Hampton, Humbly *Sheweth*:—That we the subscribers being comprehended in the afores^d Charter and by reason thereof exposed to greater hardships and unreasonable difficulties as to all Parish and Town affairs, being six miles or more distant from their Meeting house, we cannot with our families attend y^e publick worship there, neither can we have y^e privilidge of voteing in their publick affairs respecting Town or Parish, for if their meetings are warned in the usual Method we shall have no knowledge of them, or if by chance we hear of any of them, such is the distance that we can't attend them; and therefore it will be very prejudicial to us to stand in such relation to them with whom we can neither do our duty nor enjoy our just Rights and Privileges;—We therefore pray that (as the rest of our Neighbours) we may be set off as to our persons & Estates from the said Town of South Hampton and annexed to Hampton Falls there to do duty and enjoy y^e privilidges of Townsmen, so shall y^r Petition^{rs} ever pray, &c.

John Collins
Sam^l Collins
Samuel Smith
David Norton

Jonathan Walton
Joseph Norton
Jacob Smith
Eliphaz Dow (1)

Province of New Hamp^r

In Council September the 16, 1742.

The above petition read & Voted thereon that the selectmen of South Hampton be served with a copy of this Petition & the vote thereon, by the Petition^{rs} & at their expence; & that they appear on the 3^d day of sitting of the Gen^l Assembly next, to shew cause if any they have why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.

Eodem Die.

In the House of Representatives, the above Petition Read & y^e

(1) A note in the margin by the late John Farmer, Esq. says, "Eliphaz Dow murdered Peter Clough in 1754, and was executed 8 May 1755." See Prov. Pap. Vol. VI. pp. 338, 334. Ed.

vote of Council thereon, and voted a concurrence with y^o Vote of Council.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m.

September y^e 17th 1742. The within vote
Assented to,

B. WENTWORTH.

In the House of Representatives 9^{br} 10th 1742.

The within Petition read and voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted & that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Prov. New Hamp^r November 23^d 1742.

In Council.

the above vote read & Concurr^d.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.

In the House of Representatives, 9^{br} the 24th 1742.

Mr. Sec^y bro't down the within Petition to be Reconsidered, 9^{br} y^e 25th 1742. The within Petition Read & the House having reconsidered the affair Voted, That a Line be extended from the dividing Line between Hampton Falls P^{ish} & y^e P^{ish} of Kensington to the Province Line, being south four degrees West, and that all the Inhabitants & their Estates to y^e Eastward of y^e line that did belong to South Hampton shall be annexed to Hampton Falls P^{ish}, And y^e Petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

James Jeffry, Clr. Ass^m

In Council. Nov: 25, 1742.

Concurr^d with this amendment, viz. After the words *Hampton Falls Parish*, be added.—to all Intents & Purposes except the Dutys of repairing & mending highways below the above s^d Line, & paying their Province Tax which is to be paid as usual till a new Proportion or the further order of the Gen^l Assembly

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^y.

Eod. Die. In the House of Represent^{as} the above vote of Council for amendm^t Read & Concurr^d.

James Jeffry, Cler. Ass^m

Eod^m Die.—Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Petition of John Page and Benjamin Baker, to be set off, &c.

[Compare the papers which follow, with those pertaining to Newtown, pp. 607-630. Ed.]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Cap. Gen^l and Governour in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in N: E: And to the Honourable his Majesty's Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled: November — 1742.

The Petition of John Page & Benjamin Baker late of Salisbury, now incorporated with the Inhabitants of South Hampton, Humbly *Sheweth*:

That by Reason of our great Distance from the Place of Pub-

lick Worship in s^d Town of South Hampton, We cannot without great difficulty with our Families attend the Publick Worship there, nor attend other publick meetings for the management of Town affairs: And therefore pray that We may be polled off to Hampton Falls as to our Persons and Estates, there to do duty & enjoy Priviledges as sundry others of our Neighbours, in like circumstances with our selves, have been. So shall your Petitioners ever pray &c.

JOHN PAGE
BENJAMIN BAKER.

South Hampton, Sept^r 27th 1742.

In the House of Representatives 9^{br} y^e 19th 1742.

The above petition read and voted, That the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of South Hampton with a Coppy of this Petition and Votes thereon, & that they appeare the third day of y^r sitting of the Gen^l Assembly at the next sessions to show cause (if any) why the Prayer of the Petition may not be granted.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assⁿ

Prov. of New Hamp^r Nov^r 20th 1742.

The within Vote of the House read & concurrd at the Council Board.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^r.

Nov. 24th 1742.

Assented to,—

B. WENTWORTH.

In the House of Representatives, May 25th A. D. 1743.

The within Petitioners heard & the Select men of South Hampton: The House having considered thereof, Voted that the Petition be dismissed.

James Jeffry, Cler. Assⁿ

*Answer to the foregoing Petition by the Selectmen of
South Hampton.*

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled, May y^e 10th 1743.

We the Select men of South Hampton have taken opportunity at this time to express our loyalty to the King's Majesty and our Duty to your Excellency and Honours and to the Representatives: We humbly confide in your tender Regard to our holy Religion that whereas we have setteled a Church of our Lord Jesus among us that you will protect us so that we may be able to maintain it.

We have been served with a coppy of a Petition that Doc. John Page and Mr. Benjamin Baker have prefered to this Honourable Court in order to pole off from us, which we oppose for these Reasons following.

1. Every man cant have an equal priviledge in going to y^e publick worship, in all Towns and Parishes there is some without as well as some within and since Doc. Page and Mr. Baker's lines are fallen to them without we think they ought to be content.

2^{dly} We laid out a drift way from y^e high way that leads from Doc. Page's house a cross to our Meeting house and we made gats and some of our brethren came to us to meeting but they found some difficulties by Reason of y^e Gats so they were desirous that we would lay it out an open high way and we being willing to shew them all Christian Regard and kindness layd it out an open high way and have agreed wth y^e owners of y^e Land and y^e way cost y^e Town about one hundred and fourty pounds and we have made y^e way so convenient to pass & Repass that som of our brethren comes to us to meeting and Doc. Page and Mr. Baker may come with their neighbours.

3^{dly} We have laid out a high way from y^e mouth of a high way y^t leads from our meeting house to Powers River a cross Richard Curriers land to a high way y^t leads from Alnisbury through South Hampton to Kingstown to oblige our brethren at y^e West part of y^e Town, and we have built a Bridge over Powers River and we have been at an Extraordinary charge in building a long and high Cassey over a Great water y^e is flow'd by a Dam a cross y^e River and we have made it convenient to pass and Repass And several famillys come to us to meeting.

4^{ly} If Doc. Page and Mr. Baker should be polled off there are some at y^e west end of y^e Town y^t lives further of y^e Meeting house then Doc. Page and Mr. Baker, and they will say there is more reason y^t they should poll off then Doc. Page and Mr. Baker, because they lives further of. Doc. Page and Mr. Bakers polling off Dont bring them any nere y^e Meeting house, but makes them more charge to pay and they as far from meeting as ever and so they will be for polling off too and so it will threaten y^e Dissolution and confusion of our Town.

5^{ly} Your Excellency and Honours was pleased to grant us a Town calld by y^e name of South Hampton for which we thank you and you wear pleasd in your greate wisdom to send us a Committee of very judicious men and they came along by Doc. Pages and Mr. Bakers houses and so came across nere where we laid out our new high way to our Meeting house and viewed y^e Town to y^e Extent, and they judged that all y^e Inhabitants that lives above or to y^e westward of Kinsington line that was Run by Capt. Robie out to y^e Province line should stand with us, and we stands by their judg-

ment, and we shall take hard that one or two privit men should spoil a Publick Intrest.

6^y Doc. Page and Mr. Baker have set forth in their Petition that they cant come to y^e publick worship with us by Reason of the great Distance therefrom nor attend other publick meetings for y^e management of Town affairs, whereas we think they are nearer to our Meeting house than they are to Hampton Falls Meeting house, and we think it cant in Reason be thought that ever Doc. Page and Mr. Baker will or intend to make any constant practis in going to Hampton Falls to meeting for they make it their constant practis in going to Salisbury to meeting, and will have their priviledge wth them, and we think it reasonable that they should stand with us because there is about thirteen families that lives at the North west End of Salisbury that constantly Assemblys with us.

7^y By What has been offered we doubt not but your Excellency and Honours will se just cause in your great wisdom to revers Doc. Pages and Mr. Bakers petition, and accordingly grant us our Request.

Your humble Servants,

REUBEN DIMOND	}	Selectmen for South Hampton
JOSEPH FRENCH, jun		
EPHRAIM BROWN		

Memorial of Inhabitants of South Hampton.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honourable his Majesties Council.

After our Duty expressed we find ourselves constrained to make our humble acknowledgment of your Goodness extended toward us, and Return you thanks for granting our Petition and Incorporating us into a Town called by y^e name of South Hampton. We have been credible informed that some of our Dessenting brethren that lives at y^e upper or west part of our Town have preferd a petition to y^e Honourable Court to be set off from us and we hear all so that they have presented a copy of a vote to your Excellency & Honours that we are willing they should be set off, which Vote we oppose for y^e Reasons hereafter mentioned. Our Dessenting brethren Did at a Town meeting present us a petition which is as followeth:

September y^e 29th 1742. We whose names are under written Do Petition to the Town of South Hampton that they would agree to pass a

vote that that part of y^e town which lyeth upon y^e west side of Powers River should be set off as soon as they are in order to Settell a minister y^e is more convenient for them that is as many as shall be willing to be set off, then we will agree to help support y^e minister here till then; If you will finish y^e meeting house and settell a minister upon your charge and like wise Release us from doing any thing toward y^e meeting house that has been past: Jonathan Farren, Micah Hoit, James George, John Eliot, Aaron Currier, David Goodwin, David Martain, Timothy Farren, Thomas Greenfield, John Sargent, Abraham Merrill, Robert Martain, Nathaniel Ash, Philip Challis, Samuel Goodwin, William Sargent, Caleb Hobs. Daniel Goodwin, George Martain, Jonathan Kimball, Benjamin Kimball, Roger Eastman, David Colby, Jacob Colby, Zacheus Colby, Jonathan Wotson.

A true Copy Examined by me,

Reuben Dimond, town Clerk.

Now we had no power to set our Dessenting brethren off, for as we had not power to Incorporate ourselves into a Body so we had no power to make any secession and it is not for us to arrogate that to ourselves which belongs to the Honourable Court; but we told our Dessenting brethren that it was a time of great charges with us and if they would joyne with us in our extraordinary charges, when they should be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain y^e Gospel of Christ among them y^e we would pay back again their part of y^e extraordinary charges that should arise to them in finishing y^e meeting house, setteling a minister and building for him: now we did not make this offer, because they could make any majority upon us, but we did it for peace, we considering how good it is for brethren to Dwell to gether in Love and unity, and that peace is y^e beauty of a Society and it is so necessary and so valuable that we were Ready to sacrifice any thing to procure it, saving only a good conscience, and so we proceeded to a vote which is as followeth:

At a meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton, September y^e 29, 1742, Cornet Abraham Brown was chosen Moderator for y^e same meeting. At y^e same meeting it was taken into consideration that, Whereas there are a number of Inhabitants of y^e upper or west part of this town y^e lives at considerable Distance from meeting and have thoughts in time to be better accommodated than constantly to assemble with us, and we being Desirous to exercise all Christian Regard and kindness to them, Votes first, That all those persons that lives above or to the Westward of Capt. Jonathan Currier's that have a mind to go off and be a Parish shall have their extraordinary charges that they are now at among us paid back again to them:—that is to say, All their part of y^e extraordinary charge that shall arise to them by finishing y^e meeting house, setteling a minister and building for him, when they shall be thought capable by lawfull authority to maintain the Gospel of Christ among them, Provided they do not molest or hinder us of y^e other part in our speedy setteling a Gospel minister among us, and y^e they pay toward his support while they are of us or belong to us, hoping at the same time, they will of their owe free will be assisting to us.

2^d Voted, That we will make no opposition to them in their Indea-

ours to be a Reg'lar town or parrish whenever they shall be thought capable by lawfull authority—voted in y^e affirmative.

A true Coppy—

Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

Now after this Vote was offered to our Dessenting brethren we chose a Committee to go to y^e Association meeting of y^e Rev^d Ministers at y^e Rev. Mr. Coffin's in Kingston to ask advice. How we should proceed in Reg'lar way to settel a Gospel minister among us, and there appear'd two of our Dissenting brethren and Declared that they would not joyne with us in setteling a minister for they s^t that vote was only a sham for we knew that they could not make a parrish; but they said that we should have put into y^e vote y^t when they and their neighbours could make a Parrish;—whereas we drew y^e vote according to their petition, and they never ask us to set them off to joyne with their neighbours for there is no such a word in their petition as their neighbours.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of South Hampton, November y^e 26, 1742, John Flanders was chosen moderator for y^e same meeting. At y^e same meeting it was taken into consideration, that Whereas we y^e Inhabitants of this Town being in present want of a pious, larned orthodox minister of a good conversation, to dispense y^e word and Administer y^e ordinances of our Lord Jesus among us, and it being our Duty to look up to Heaven for Divine Assistance to guide us in all our affairs, therefore, Voted, That Thursday y^e 2^d day of December next is appointed to be a day of Fasting and Prayer in order for y^e calling & setteling a Gospel minister among us, voted and past in y^e affirmative. Nathaniel Ash, Jonathan Farren, James George Daniel Goodwin, Jacob Colby, Sam^l Goodwin, John Eliot, David Goodwin, Philip Chailis, David Colby, enters their contrary Dessents against y^e Vote for ye fast which was for calling and setteling a Gospel minister among us.

A true Copy of y^e vote and all y^e dissenters that live above or to y^e westward of Powers River.

Attest—Reuben Dimond, Town Cler.

At the same meeting Capt. Jonathan Currier and Joseph French jun. was chosen a Committee to call in y^e Assistance of y^e neighbouring ministers to celebrate a day of Fasting and prayer among us—Voted & past in y^e affirmative.

A true copy,

Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

Now when y^e Rev. Ministers was come, which we called to our assistance, our Desenting brethren appeared and opposed them and beat off y^e forenoon exercise, yet notwithstanding all their oppositions and Alegations the Rev. Ministers Did not see but y^e way was clear to proceed to y^e worship of y^e day where unto they were call'd.

At a legal meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e Town of South Hampton, December 27, 1742, John Flanders was chosen Moderator y^e Same meeting. At y^e same meeting it was Voted, That we give y^e Rev^d Mr. William Parsons a call to settel in y^e work of y^e Gospel ministry among us. Voted in y^e affirmative. At y^e same meeting, James George, Jon-

athan Farren, Aaron Currier, David Goodwin, David Colby, Daniel Goodwin, Zacheus Colby, Philip Challis, Jonathan Wotson, Sam^l Goodwin, Rogles Colby, Roger Easman, Jacob Colby, Robart Martain, Micah Hoyt, Enters their contrary Desents against y^e Vote for calling and settling the Rev. Mr. William Parsons or any other man in y^e work of y^e Ministry under their present curcomstances. A true Copy of y^e vote and all y^e Dessenters that lives above or to y^e westward of Powers River.

Attest, Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

At y^e same meeting it was Voted that y^e 23^d Day of February next is appointed to be a day of ordination among us & at y^e same meeting Joseph French, John Ordaway, Thomas Merrill and Abraham Brown were chosen a Committee to send Letters to y^e Rev. Ministers and Messengers to be assistant in gathering a Church and in ordaining the Rev. Mr. William Parsons in y^e work of y^e ministry among us. Voted in the affirmative.

A true Copey.

Attest,

Reuben Dimond, Town clerk

Now y^e ministers we calld to our assistance were the Rev. Mr. Chusing, Mr. Whipple, Mr. Joseph Parsons, Mr. Sam^l Parsons, Mr. Fogg, Mr. Coffin, Mr. Webster: These wear chosen a Council to carrey on y^e work of the ordination among us, and to set y^e day before y^e ordination, and so we notified our Dissenting brethren to come at y^e time appointed, and shew Reasons if any they had why y^e minister should not be ordained; but before y^e time appointed came, we heard that our Dissenting brethren had made Report that they intended to take of our Council, for some were akind to y^e man that was to be ordain'd and others had given judgment before: So we, hearing of their Stratagems and not being ignorant of their Devices, we considere^d it was easier to prevent a Diseas than to cure it, or to keep an adversary out when out, then git him out when he was in, and so being forewarnd we thought it best to be forearm'd and so we calld y^e town together to chuse other ministers.

At a meeting of y^e Inhabitants of y^e town of South Hampton, Jan^{ry} y^e 15th 1742-3, Joseph French was chosen Moderator. At y^e same meeting it was put to vote wheither the Town would chuse the Rev. Mr. Odlin and the Rev. Mr. Gookin and their messengers to be assistant in Council with y^e other Ministers for gathering a Church and carry on y^e ordination among us, and y^e vote was past in the affirmative.

A true copy.

Attest,

Reuben Dimond, Town Clerk.

We voted that we would pay back again all their part of y^e extraordinary charges that should arise to them by finishing y^e Meeting house, settling a minister and building for him when they should be thought capable to maintain y^e Gospel of Christ among them: but then there was a condition annext to that vote: it was provided they did not molest or hinder us in our speedy settling a Gospel minister among us; but now they have opposed us from place to place, and from time to time they have entered their contrary desents once and agen

against our Regular proceedings in an orderly way to settel a Gospel minister among us, and then put us to a great deal of trouble and to an extraordinary charge in calling in that Grand Council which set at y^e time appointed, and the Rev. Mr. Caleb Chusing (1) was moderator, and our Desenting brethren appeared in Council and objected against some of y^e Council; and y^e moderator ask them who they were and they said Mr. Joseph Parsons, Mr. Samuel Parsons and Mr. Fogg: the Moderator ask them what they had against them men; they s^d they wear aken^d; and y^e Moderator ask them what they had against y^e man that was to be ordained as to his life and conversation or his Doctrin, and they eledge nothing; but they said y^e Province line would be moved and then they should lose the money that they had expended with us, and they had not a convenient way: The Moderator told them as to y^e removing y^e line that could be no bar as to setteling y^e minister, for if y^e lines should be moved then we must petition y^e Massachusetts Court for a Parrish, and as to a way, their law provides how they should get high ways; so notwithstanding all y^e objections and allegations they could make the Rev. Council did not see but y^e way was clear to settel a minister among us.

All these molestations, interruptions and oppositions we have met with from our Desenting brethren since we offerd them that vote; yet now they would skreen themselves under that vote, that we are willing they should go off when they have never fullfilld y^e conditions of y^e vote in any one article; for if our Desenting brethren had agreed with us, we should have had none occasion to have been at so much trouble and at such an extraordinary charge in sending from town to town and from one Parish to another about y^e country to call in that Grand Council, for two or three of y^e neighbouring ministers would have done our business in y^e morning before y^e ordination.

South Hampton

March y^e 29, 1745.

Daniel Brown
Nathanel Morrill
Daniel Carter
Abner Morrill
Henry French
Joseph Jewit ?
Joseph Gould
Josiah Flanders
Joseph Jones
Samuel Morrill
Ephraim Brown
Elijah Rowell
John Ordway

Reuben Dimond
Joseph Chandler
Samuel Straw
Ephraim Carter
Nathan Gould
Samuel Barnard
Elezer French
Joshua Clow
Jonathan Jewet
Jonathan Flanders.
Joseph French
Samuel French
Henry Currier

(1) Probably this was Rev. Caleb Cushing.

Daniel French
Joseph Morrill
Richard Fitts
Moses Richason

Ezekiel Hoyt
Ephraim Carter
Orlando Weed ?
Paul Morrill

Petition in relation to a high-way.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. General and Governour in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampsheir in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council And to the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives in General Court assembled :

The Petition of the Town of South Hampton humbly sheweth :—

That the Town finding there was Occasion of a highway from the Meeting-house Southward to a highway which was laid out by Alms bury, accordingly Voted a way should be laid out on the East side of the Parsonage unto Powes River, and throw sundry mens Land unto the said high-way, and the selectmen being met to lay out s^d way and finding a more convenient way might be had else where made Request to the Town, who Voted, That the former Vote should be reconsidered, and a high way should be laid out across the Parsonage and over the River whare it dos meet the high way which was laid out by Almsbury Direct, and thare it is laid out and Recorded.

Notwithstanding this way is moste for the common good, there are sum persons who are uneasy because the way first Voted is not laid out and have applyed themselves to the General Sessions of the Peace who have ordered a Committee to lay that way out also : which if Don the Town must make and maintain two ways and two bridges within about twenty five or thirty Rods which will be a very great and useless charge.

Therefore your Petitioners do most humbly apply to this Honourable Court and Pray that a Committee may be appointed to view those ways and to judg which will accommodate moste people and is best for the Towns use in general that it may be established and the other prevented : So shall we as in duty bound ever Pray &c.

South Hampton, April the 8, 1746.

JOHN PAIGE, Agent,
for South Hampton.

In Council, May 6th 1746.

Read and sent down to the House

Theod^r Atkinson, Sec^y.

[NOTE. A hearing was had on the foregoing petition, when—]

In the House of Representatives, May 13, 1746, Voted, that the within Petition be dismissed.

D. Pierce, Clk.

Petition relating to a Province Tax.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General And Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, and to the Honourable his Majesties Council, and to the Gent^l men of the House of Representatives in General Court assembled :

The Petition of the Select men of South Hampton, humbly *sheweth* :

That whereas George Jaffrey, Gent. Treasurer and Receiver General for his Majesties Province of New Hampshire. did in the year past send a Precept to the Selectmen of South Hampton to Raise the sum of Ninety seven Pounds and ten shillings in bills of Credit Emittid by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of said Province passed April y^e 11th 1755, Entituled an Act for granting unto his most excellent Majesty the sum of thirty thousand pounds for and towards building a Fort near Crown Pint, and the Select men in the year past omitted the Raising the Sum of Ninety seven pounds and ten shillings which was set Down in the precept, by Reason of an oversight or miss under standing, and we the Select men of South Hampton for the present year. Do therefore humbly apply ourselves to this Honourable Court and pray that this Honourable Court would be pleased in your great wisdom and goodness to compassionate our Difficult case and pass an Act to impower and authorize us the present select men to assess the Polls and Estates within said South Hampton lyable to be tax^d by Law, and give us a Reasonable time to do it in, so shall we as in Duty bound ever pray, &c.

RICH^d COLLINS } Selectmen for
BENJ. BROWN } South Hampton.

Dated March the 21
Day, 1757.

Prov. New Hamp^r

In Council March 23^d 1757.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} House.

Theodore Atkinson. Sec^r.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1757. This
New Hamp^r } Petition being read

Voted, That the Prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly.

Andrew Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, March 23^d, 1757.

Read & concurrd.

Theo. Atkinson, Sec.

Petition from sundry inhabitants of South Hampton to be annexed to Newtown.

Province of }
New Hamp^r } South Hampton, July 14, 1768.

To his Excellency the Governor, the honorable his Majesties Council & House of Representatives for the Province aforesaid in General Court Assembled :

We subscribers Inhabitants of South Hampton do humbly request that we and our Estates may be annexed to Newtown for the Reasons following, viz.

We were originally of the Almsbury District which is now called Newtown :

We can attend public worship there with more ease, the way to it being much better & the place of worship nearer ; some of us live within half a mile of Newtown Meeting House & four Miles from our own.

The most of us do constantly attend public worship at Newtown and enjoy special religious privileges there but are denied the satisfaction of paying our money where we have our favors, and to those to whom it seems of right due, and the mortification of paying it to such as do us no good.

We are ill accommodated in regard to schooling for our children. Newtown School we have no right to : South Hampton is so distant that we cannot send to it ; indeed Southhampton hath in some instances left our proportion of the School money to our own disposal. but the sum is so small that it will not maintain a School long enough to be of any considerable benefit, & even while it does support a school among us we live so scattered & at such a distance from one another that the School cannot be so placed as to well accommodate us all at once.

Our condition is really in our account Very unhappy :—we therefore humbly beg that your Excellency & Honors would take it under your consideration and grant such relief as in your wisdom you shall think proper.

Jonathan Currier, 1 M. north.
Samuel Kimball
Phillip Currier
Challis Currier
Thomas Currier

Nathan Currier
Charles Coolens
James Currier
Aaron Sargent, sou. 1-2 mile.
Sarah Currier

Province of }
New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 12th 1770

The within Petition being read & considered

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition on Thursday the twenty-fifth Day of January instant, if the General Assembly be then sitting, and if not then on the second day of their sitting next after, and that the Petitioners at their own cost serve the Selectmen of

South Hampton with a Copy of this Petition & order that they may shew cause why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, Jan^y 12, 1770.

Read & concurred.

Geo. King, D. Sec^y.

Province of } In the House of Representatives March 22^d 1770.
New Hamp^{sr} }

The Parties being heard on this Petition and the Petitioners requesting that a Committee may be appointed to view the circumstances of the Petitioners at the cost of the s^d Petitioners :

Voted, That Capt. John Giddings & Doctor Ebenezer Thompson be a Committee of this House to join with such as the Hon^{bl} Council shall appoint to make enquiry respecting the circumstances of the Petitioners and make report to the General Assembly as soon as may be—the cost of the Committee to be paid by the Petitioners.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, March 23^d 1770.

Read & concurred & the Hon^{bl} Daniel Pierce Esq^r added on part of the Board.

Geo. King, D. Sec^y.

Pursuant to the foregoing appointment we the Subscribers have view'd the situation of the Petitioners, heard & consider'd what the Parties concern'd thought fit to offer relative to the Premises :

And although we think that some of the Petitioners might be better accommodated by being annexed to Newtown, yet really think their difficulties not greater than what usually happens in almost every town : And their being so annexed would (as we conceive) increase the difficulties occasioned by the former liberty of Polling in said Towns, which we now think need redress : Therefore we beg leave to recommend the dismissing said Petition. Witness our hands at Portsmouth the 21st of December, 1770.

D. Peirce
John Giddinge
Eben^r Thompson.

In Council, Dec. 21st 1770.

In pursuance of the above report it is ordered that this Petition be dismissed.

Geo. King, D. Sec^y.

Petition for settling the line between South Hampton and Newtown.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esq^r
New Hamp^{sr} } Captain General, Governor and Commander
in Chief in and over the Province of New
Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesty's Council and
house of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The Petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee chosen for the Town of South Hampton, Most humbly *shew-eth* :—

That the said Town of South Hampton suffer great incon-

veniences for want of a Line settled and established, between the said Town of South Hampton and the Town of New Town, there being more than Twenty persons in said South Hampton, which claim to belong to Newtown, part of whom might be as well accommodated by being joyned to South Hampton. and a number more of South Hampton that might be as well accommodated by being joyned to Newtown. Your petitioners therefore pray a Line may be settled between the said Towns in such a manner as not to enlarge the one at the expense of the other, but to make both equal to which they now are, and that a Committee may be appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the case and Report such a Line as may effect the purposes aforesaid: and your Petitioners as they are in Duty bound will ever pray, &c.

PHILIPS WHITE
ABEL BROWN
MOSES FRENCH

South Hampton, Decem^r
19th 1770.

Province of } In the house of Representatives
New Hamp^s } Dec. 30. 1770.

Voted, That the Petitioners be heard on this Petition, on Thursday the third day of January next, if the General Assembly be then sitting; and if not then on the third day of their sitting next after: And that the Petitioners serve the Selectmen of Newtown with a copy of this Petition and order of court that, they may shew cause why the Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, eodem die.

Read & concurred.

Geo King, D. Sec^r.

Province of } In the House of Representatives
New Hamp^s } Jan^y 3^d 1771.

The within Petition being considered and the Parties heard thereon, and consenting that Daniel Pierce Esq^r Capt. John Giddinge and Doct^r Ebenezer Thompson be a Committee to settle the line between the said Towns in such place as shall appear to them proper, after hearing both parties, said Com^{tee} also to Determin by whom the cost of the Com^{tee} be paid:—

Voted. That the said Daniel Pierce, Esq^r Capt. John Giddinge and Doct^r Ebenezer Thompson be a committee for the purpose abovementioned.

M. Weare, Clk.

In Council, eodem die.

Read and concur'd

Geo. King, D. Sec^r

STRATHAM.

[Stratham was originally a part of the Squamscott Patent, and was laid off from Exeter, and incorporated as a distinct town, March 14, 1716. Ed.]

Petition for a Township.

To the Honourable the Lef^t Governour, Councill and Representatives conven'd in Generall Assembly :

We the subscribers hereof inhabiting in and about Swamscott, not lying in any Township and living att a considerable Distance from the publique worship of God, not haveing the benefitt of instructing our youth, besides many other great inconveniences which we labour under. Being now by the Providence of God att peace in our severall Dwellings and being no less than thirty five familys all well disposed to maintaine the publique ministry and defraying of all other necessary charges to the best of our abilities, and hoping that within a little time we shall increase to a far more considerable number. Doe most humbly pray that your Honours would please to settle and confirm us the severall Inhabitants extending from Wheelwright's Creek downwards to Sandy-Point as a distinct Township of ourselves, Impowering all such officers among us as your Honours in your great wisdom and prudence shall judge most meet: We crave leave to subscribe your Honours most humble and most obedient servants.

Andrew Wiggin, sen^r
Isaac Cole
Simon Wiggin
Andrew Wiggin, jun.
Thomas Vesey
Bradstreet Wiggin
William French
Nathaniell Wright
Jonathan Wiggin
Thomas Read
Tho. Wiggin
William Moores Sen^r
William Moore, jun^r
Oen Renels, his mark O
George Vasay

Richard Downes ?
Thomas ——— ?
Jonathan Norris
Mark Stacey
Richard Mongen Sen. R. mark
James Rundlet
Charles Rundlet
Sam^l Leavett, sen^r
Sam^l Leavitt, jun
Edⁿ Gramon X mark
Stephen England
Edward Masry Z mark
Thomas Spild, sen X mark
Richard Mongen, O mark

Petition for a Township.

To the Hon^{ble} Geo: Vaughan, Esq. Lt. Gov^r & Commander in Chief of his Majesties Province of N. Hamp^{sh} & to his Majesties Council of y^e Prov: aforesaid :

The Petition of his Maj^{ties} good subjects sundry the Inhabitants of y^e town of Exeter: Most humbly shewith:—

The great hardships & Inconveniences which we (y^r Hon^{rs} Petitioners) are made the subjects of by a late order from the Hon^{ble} Board:—(viz.)—y^t all y^e Inhabitants of Exeter to y^e eastw^d of west creek line should be joyned to y^e Parish of Greenland, in answer to a petition presented by Mr. Josh: Weeks subscribed by sundry the inhabitants of the town of Exeter afores^d, praying to be added to y^e s^d Parish of Greenland, for that we y^e subscribers who are on y^e east side of s^d line never had any knowledge of s^d Petition till after 'twas p^resented & then not seasonably enough to counter Petition before y^e ord^r

May it Please y^r Hon^{rs}:

We have once & again Petitioned to be made a township: y^t is, y^e Inhabitants of Swampscutt Patent w^of we are some and Intend one address more to y^r Hon^{rs} on the same head, tho' were that nothing at all we cannot but represent to yo^r Hon^{rs} the g^t hardship we labour under on acc^t of y^e ord^r afores^d inasmuch as there is a maj^r numb^r y^t never knew of s^d Petition (that are joyned to y^e Parish of Greenland by y^e ord^r made upon it) than those that signed it. Whereupon we cannot but humbly pray for a Counter Ord^r to the Order afores^d at least for so long a time as till both p^rtitions may have a hearing w^h will be a plain means to a final determination of the matter. However all is submitted to yo^r Hon^{rs} by yo^r Hon^{rs} most obed^t serv^{ts}

ANDREW WIGGIN
THOMAS WIGGIN
JONATHAN WIGGIN
WILL^m FRENCH.

Jan^y 4th 1715-16.

Petition to be set off into a township.

To his Honour George Vahan Esq^r Lieu^t Governour and Commander in cheif in & over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire in New England, & to his Majesties honoured Counsell for s^t Province:

We the Inhabitation of Quamescuk patent, humbly *sheweth*:—The very bad circumstances we lay under by reason of our great distance from the publick Worship of God and haveing no benefitt of any School, notwithstanding we have ever paid our proportion to the School of Exeter, and are now by the Providence of God increased to such a number as we hope we are able of ourselves to maintain a Minister & a school & other town charges as shall nessesarily fall upon us, with our

proportion of publick assessments: Therefore we your petitioners does humbly pray that your Honours would pleas to set us of from all other Towns and Parishes and grant us a Township by ourselves & bound us as followeth: viz. Beginning at Sandey Point bounding upon Exeter river untill it comes into Wheelwrights Creeks mouth & from thence upon a southeast line three miles into the land; from s^d Sandey point to run three miles into y^e land upon a southeast line with an head line according to y^e s^d Patent, which will be greatly to the joy & satisfaction of your petitioners whose names are under writen.

We your Petitioners does further humbly beg leave to inform yours honors of our ill conveniences, being laid some times to one town & some times to another & all wayes a great distance from the Publick worship of God; with submission we would pray your honors to consider which is most reason—Whether those men which lay near Greenland should joyn with us your petitioners, or all we avall to them: We submit to your honors pleasure.

Dated this tenth day of January Inst. 17¹³/₁₀

Simon Wiggin
 Andrew Wiggin
 Thomas Vezey
 William French
 Jonathan Wiggins
 Moses Leavitt juner
 Richard Calley
 Stephen England
 John Haniford
 William Powell
 Owen Runals, senor
 Owen Runalls, juner
 James Palmer
 Edward Maservy
 Benjamin Palmer
 Moses Rallins
 Aaron Rallins
 James Robison
 Sam^l Green
 Edward Fifield
 Thomas Rallins
 David Robison
 Joseph Rallins
 Arthur Benitt
 Joseph Hoitt
 John Mead
 Matthew Tomson
 William More
 George Veasey
 Thomas Wiggins sen^r

Thomas Wiggins, jun^r
 John Wiggins
 Daniel Moody
 John Mason
 John Searll
 James Keniston
 Richard Crockett
 John Satchell
 John Sinkler
 Joseph Mason
 Samuel Piper
 Gilles Brier
 Thomas Toms
 John Pett
 Thomas Brier
 William Seamen
 Satchell Rundlett
 Jonathan Clark
 Nathaniel Folsom
 Richard Morgan
 Nathaniel Stevens
 ohn Robarts
 James Dorety
 Daniel Leavitt
 Abraham Stockbridge
 John Jones
 Widow Leavitt
 Israel Smith
 Benj^a Leavitt.

Counter Petition.

To y^e honorable George Vaighan Esq^r Left. Governor and Commander of his Maigistys province of new hampshar and the honorable Counsell now sitting at Porchmouth.

The petition of us whose names are under written, humbly sheweth :

That wheras your petitioners air informed that your honors intend to incorporate that tract of land called the Pattente into a township within the precintes of which your petitioners now dwells, we your petitioners have ever been of opinion and now are well assured that the peopell inhabiting within y^e Limits above s^d are not capiable of supporting such a townd charg as will be needful, neaither did we ever send away such petition, naither dare we presum so to do unless we should desire the ruining of our familys by Removing off from thes small tracts of land we are now settled upon, we therefore pray your honnors that we may continue as we are untill beter inabled to perform such a charg, lest men mock us and saye, These men have laid a foundation before they have considered they ware not able to finish it; and we your petishors that have never consented to petition to be a townd shall ever pray whilst—

James Sinkler
Benjiman Gones
James Rundlit
Jonathan Norris
Ithiall Smith
Joseph Larans
Phillip Spendelow
Thomas Sped
John Clark

Ephreham Levitt
Abraham Stockbrig
John Speed
Daniel Smith
Je'hrow Parson
Ebenezer Foulsham
Beanjaman Taylor
Samweall Leavitt

And we your honors petitioners whos names are under written who un advisedly and without consideration sined the petishon that a township mite be granted, haveing since beter considered of that matter are sensible of our unadvisedness and inabillity to perform such a charg as must of nessesity follow upon our being a township unless we impoverish our familys and frely now goine with the first above subscribed petitioners: And that we may not be a township for the afor s^d Resons but may continue as we are now settled untill beter Inabled to bare such a charge and your petitioners shall ever acknowledge your honors fafore herein—and subscribe our selves your honors dutifull and obedient servants.

Isrell Smith
Joseph Hoyt
Benjamin Levit
Matthew Tompson

Sachill Rundlit
Nathaniel Foulsham
Benjamin Palmer
Mary Levitt—widow

Jan. 14th 1715-6.

Petition of Selectmen in relation to a meeting house.

Stratham May the 16, 1716.

To his Honor George Vahn esquire Lef^t Governor and commander in chief in and over his Majesties Province of New hampshire in New England and to his Majesties honourable Councill for said Province :

We your humble petitioners Selectmen for the town of Stratham: We are sorry that we are forced to trouble your honors with a petition;—for the inhabitants of our town are unhappily divided about a place where to set our meeting house and we have had severall town meetings in hops to agree among ourselves but all the proposalls that has been made could never obtain that happy end and for these reasons we would pray your honors that in your wisdom you would see meet to appoint a Committee of indifferent men that are unconcerned for to measure the town and so fix a place for the meeting house according to the patine. So we are your honours humble petitioners in behalf of the town.

SIMON WIGGIN

JONATHAN WIGGIN

WILL^m FRENCH,

Selectmen.

Petition of Jonathan Wiggin, relating to Hilton's Ferry.

To his Excellency Sam^l Shute, Esq^r Captain Gen^l Govern^r & Command^r in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of New Hamp^r &c. To the Honourable the Council & Representatives convened in Gen^l Assembly in Portsm^o in s^d Province.

The Petition of Jonathan Wiggin of the town of Stratham, most humbly *Sherweth* :

That Capt. Rich^d Hilton of Exeter was formerly favored by the Gen^l Assembly in this his Majesties Province with a Grant of the Ferry over Exeter river, which Grant was attended with a particular condition that he should procure a way to the Ferry, so that the Publick should not be charged therewith; but tho' he has had the improvement of the Ferry for the space of near Thirty years yet never procured any way thereto on the southerly side of the s^d river, but all Travellers have trespassed on yo^r Petitioner by passing over his pasture, meadows and fields, for the space of one full mile in one part of his farm & almost halfe a mile in another part thereof, extremely to yo^r Petitioner's damage, who cannot obtain any redress from the s^d Hilton, altho' his Grant is thereby forfeited to the Government.

And the afores^d Capt. Hilton doth live at so great a distance

from the river that Travellers are oftentimes hindred in getting over and necessitated to burden your Petitioner with themselves and horses for entertainment in the night, which is expensive to yo^r Petitioner and an hindrance to them in their journey, many of whom have oftentimes put your Petitioner upon praying for the Ferry on that side of the river adjoining to his land. And if your Petitioner should stop up the afore s^d ways, Travellers would be extremely prejudiced.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays that your Excellency and this Honourable Assembly will please to grant to him the privilege of the Ferry on the southerly side of the s^d River, with the liberty of Keeping or hanging Gates through his own farm & the liberty of the Ferryman keeping an house of entertainment for Travellers free of Excise: So yo^r Petitioner shall ever pray as in duty bound &c. & subscribes,

JONATHAN WIGGIN.

22^d April 1721.

Summons to Richard Hilton.

Pro. N. Hamp^t

To the Sheriff of the said Province, his under Sheri^{ff} or Deputy, Greeting:

By order of his Hon^r the Lieut. Governour, and the Hon^{ble} the Council, you are hereby required in his Majesty's name, forthwith on receipt hereof, to Summon Rich^d Hilton of Exeter Esq. to appear at y^e Council board to morrow at 3 o'clock afternoon, to show cause if any he hath, why the ferry on the South side of Exeter river agst your house should not be granted to Mr. Jon^s Wiggin of Stratham, according to his petition, &c. Dated at y^e Council board y^e 11th of July, 1721.

Richard Waldron, Cler. Con.

Make return of this writ, at y^e time afores^d

R. Waldron, Cl. Con.

July 12, 1721. Then summoned Capt. Richard Hilton, Esq. to appear at time & place, by me

Benj. Leavitt, Dep. Sheriff.

Petition of Stratham relating to divisions about a Minister.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire; To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Councill and house of Representatives convened in General Assembly.

The Petition of the subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Stratham in the Province aforesaid, Humbly shews:

That your Petitioners having for some years past been under very Difficult circumstances both as to their Church and Town

affairs occasioned by the unhappy and unscriptural separation of a great number of the Principal members of the Church who by their example have influenced others of the Church and Congregation to follow them into the same separation and thereby have made themselves the major parte and have for some time past carry'd on the Publick worship in a separate house and are got to such a height as to call a Town meeting to choose a Committee to Apply to Mr. Joseph Adams their present minister to take on him the pastoral care & charge of a Church in said Town, and to cast himself on the Lord and Depend on him for what he shall Incline the People to give him for his support, which your Petitioners expect will be liberal enough inasmuch as we must bear our part of it unless relieved herein by your Excellency & Hon^{rs}; And inasmuch as their separations and proceedings thereon is so unjust and unwarrantable and we have just reason to fear willfull, and our circumstances will not admit us without impoverishing our Estates to maintain more than Mr. Rust our present ordained Minister (with whose doctrine and conduct we are well satisf'd) who was principally call'd and settled by the Principal Gentlemen in the present separation, who then made a great show of Respect for him and his Ministry; and inasmuch as this unhappy separation and proceeding thereon greatly tends to an unnatural Behaviour towards each other, and to root out our Holy Religion, and also to Destroy that Love, Peace and Unity that ought to be kept and maintained amongst us as the Professors of Christ, as also to the Destruction or wasting of our Estates: Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly Pray that your Excellency and hon^{rs} will take our Deplorable case under your wise consideration, and redress our present Grievances in such way as to your Excellency and hon^{rs} shall seem most for the glory of God and Real wellfare of this Place.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Dated at Stratham, August 12th 1746.

William French
Thomas Wiggin
Jonan Dearbun
Edward Fifeald
Thomas Wrolings
Isac Foss
Walter Wiggin
John Speed
Benjamin Jones
Richard Palmer
Richard Scamun
William French, jun.
Thomas French
Bradstreet French
Joseph Mason
Richard Wichar

David Jewill
Samuel Piper
Samuel Piper, jun.
Nathaniel White
Thomas Wiggin, jun
Josiah Parsons
Samuel Wiggin
Eliphalet Wiggin
Benjamin Cotton.
John Stockbridg
Thomas More
Ebenezer Foulsum
Thomas Reonals
Owen Reonals
Edward Mason
Benjamin Mason

Thomas Veasai
Joseph Jewit
Caleb Rowlings
Joseph Lawrance
Benjamin Tailer
Joseph Hoit
Jonathan Chase
Benjamin Palmer
Josiah Smith
Abraham Morgin
Tuftin Wiggin
William Corly
John Brackett
Jonathan Jones
Matthew Tomson
Satchell Clark
Joseph Fifeald

John Dearbun
David Robinson
Ephraim Green
James Kenison
Andrew French
John Wiggin
John Wiggin jun.
William Burly
Richard Crokit
Thomas Foss
Isac Foss, jun
John Avery
Moses Kennison
Solomon Cotton
David Haneford
Richard Crocket, jun.

Province of }
N. Hamp. } In the House of Representatives, Aug^r 22^d 1746.

Voted, That y^e Petitioners be heard on their petition y^e second day of the Setting of y^e Gen Assembly after y^e fifteenth Day of Sep^r next at ten O'clock A. M. & that y^e Petitioners at their own cost serve y^e Selectmen of Stratham with a copy of this Petition & this order of Court, that they may shew cause if any they have why y^e Prayer of the Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, Eod^m die
read & concurr^l.

Theod^r Atkinson, Sec^r.

Eod^m die.

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Another petition relating to the same matter.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq. Capt. Gen^l Govern^r & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of N: Hampsher, To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives conven'd in Gen^l Assembly:

The Petition of y^e subscribers & Inhabitants of the Town of Streatham In the Province aforesaid, Humbly *shows*: Y^e your Petitioners, &c.

[NOTE.—This Petition is word for word the same as the preceding, until the closing sentence, which is in the following words, viz.]

“Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly pray y^e your Excellency & Hon^{ty} would take our deplorable case under your wise consideration & bear due testimony against such Disorderly settlements, or exempt us & our Posterity from supporting s^d Joseph Adams, or from any charge y^e shall arise in any shape whatsoever from his being a Preacher among them:

However, we, y^e s^d Petition^{rs} leave our case with y^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} humbly praying y^t you'd please to redress our present Grievances in such a way as to your Excellency & Hon^{rs} shall seem most for the glory of God, & the real well-fare of this place, & y^r Petition^{rs} in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c."

Dated at Streatham, Dec^r 2^d 1746.

[NOTE.—The above petition is signed by the same persons as the former one. A hearing on it was granted; and then, in the House of Representatives, 15 July, 1747, is the record: "The agents for y^r Petitioners appearing & acknowledging that they were satisfied, therefore voted, That this Petition be Dismissed."]

SWANZEY.

[This town, which was first called *Lower Ashuelot*, was granted by New Hampshire, July 2^d 1753. ED.]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The Humble Petition of William Sims of Winchester so called in the Province of New Hampshire on behalf of the Proprietors or claimers of that Tract of Land within said Province called the *Lower Ashuvelot*, a List of whose names is herewith presented, *Shews*,

That the said proprietors or claimers have been improving the land at the place aforesaid near Eighteen years last past & have made considerable progress therein: Apprehending when they first entered the Land was within the Province of y^e Massachusetts Bay, and by countenance of the Government of that Province they entered upon the Lands & carried on their settlement so far as to make a Proportion & Division of said Lands to & among the Persons aforesaid, who have been at very considerable expence in making the said settlement and Defending of it.

That in order to carrying of it to greater Perfection & making of it a more useful Place it is necessary the settlers & Inhabitants should be Incorporated & vested with the Rights & Privileges of Towns which it is well known is a very necessary aid & support of such a Design, and as the persons already there have done so much to make it a useful settle-

ment they seem to have a claim to your Excellency's favour in this respect preferable to any others: Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly prays as aforesaid that your Excellency would be pleased to make a Grant of the s^d Lands to the Persons afores^d in Proportion & according to their Respective claims & the Proportion & Division made as aforesaid, and that the same may be incorporated by the Name of Swansey & Intitled to the Rights and Privileges of other Towns in said Province of New Hampshire, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

WM. SYMES.

Portsmouth, June y^e 27th 1753.

Nath^l Hammond
 Abraham Graves
 William Grimes
 Benjamin Grant
 Thomas Crison
 Thomas Crison, jun.
 William Hill
 William Crison
 William Car
 Elijah Graves
 Samuel Belding
 Eliakim King
 Jonathan Woodcock
 Joshua Graves
 Abner Graves
 David Belding
 Timothy Brown
 James Heaton
 James Heaton, jun.
 William Heaton
 Sam^l Hills
 Nath^l Hills
 Jonathan Woodcock, jun.
 Jonathan Hammonnd
 Thomas Nuten
 Ebenezer Hills
 John Prat
 Timothy Prat
 Sam^l Prat
 Joseph Hammond
 Thomas Hammond
 Seth Gay

Asa Grant
 Christopher Grant
 Daniel Arms
 Ebenezer Arms
 Nath^l Gun
 Wiget Gun
 Daniel Gun
 Ebenezer Sprag
 Ebenezer Sprag, jun
 Joseph Marchants
 Noah Bodman
 Benⁿ Sheldin
 Mark Ferry
 Jonathan Frarey
 John Frarey
 Phinehas Frarey
 Jonathan Armes
 Jonathan Bordwel
 Oliver Wit
 Oliver Hammond
 Joshua Prime
 Joseph Write
 Benⁿ Brown
 Simon Davis
 Sam^l MacClennen
 Zebulon Balord
 Stephen Nuten
 Cæsar Freeman
 Sam^l Gaylord
 James Blood, jun.
 62.

TAUNTON.

Petition relating to No. One or Taunton town (1) on the West Side of Connecticut river, 1751.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth
New Hampshire } Esq^r Gov^r in & over said Province and
to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council
within the same :

The Petition of the subscribers humbly *sheweth*: That your Petitioners or most of us owned under a grant of the Massachusetts each of us one Right or share in a Township on the West side of Connecticut River commonly called & known by y^e Name of *No. One or Taunton Town*, on y^e west side of said River, but since the Running of the Line between y^e Provinces it lyeth in y^e Province of New Hampshire; and are desirous of making a speedy and effectual settlement there:—Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Excelency & Honnours would be pleased to grant to each of us a Right in s^d Township upon the conditions that your Excellency and Honnours grants others the King's Subjects, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

February 7th 1751.

John Halbert
Josiah Willard
William Willard
Valentine Butler
Joseph Alexander
Nathan Willard
Susannah *Guilson* ?
Oliver Willard
John Arms
Wilder Willard
John Moor
John Moor, jun.
Daniel Whittmore
William Willard, jun
Prentice Willard
Eph^m Dean
Elijah Cady
Asa Douglass
Samuel Ashley
John Alexander
Samuel Greele
Jethro Wheeler
Jonathan Thayer
Joshua Welds
Submit Foster
Nathan Willard, jun.

Joseph Hubbard
Joseph Ashley
Nathaniel Maloon
John Hunt
John Taylor
John Peirce
Andrew Gardner, jun
Anthony Peirce
James Jewell
Manassah Devell
Simon Hunt
William Wilson
Jonathan Hubbard
John Arms, jun
Solomon Willard
Eben^r Field
Sam^l Allen
Billy Willard
Caleb How
Jonathan Willard
James Hills
Josiah Willard, jun
Benj^a Farwell
Robert Usher
Samuel Cummings
Josiah Brown

(1) See MS. Town Papers, Vol. VI. pp. 335, 336, inverted. ED.

Peter Powers
 John Chamberlain
 Jonathan Cuming
 Robert Fletcher, Jun.
 John Usher
 Jonathan Cummings jun
 David Stearns
 Timothy Latherbee
 Byfield Loyd

The Governor 500 acres, 2
 shares
 Theodore Atkinson
 John Wentworth, jun
 Henry Sherburn
 Richard Wibird
 Sam^l Smith
 John Downing
 Sampson Sheafe, &
 3 Publick Lotts.

WAKEFIELD.

[Formerly called East-Town; incorporated by its present name, August 30, 1774. Ed.]

At a Proprietors meeting Leagely warned and held at the house of Capt. David Copp in East-Town so called by the proprietors of said East-Town, the 28th day of June, Anno Domini, 1774; And the proprietors at said meeting;

Voted, That this Tract or Township of Land comonly called East-Town be Incorporated, and the said proprietors at said meeting, Voted, That Capt. David Copp, Capt. James Garvin & John Gage be a Committee or agents to wait on the Governor & Counsel to gite the said Township Incorporated.

A true Copy—

Attest,

John Gage, Pro. Clark.

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hampshire } Capt. General, Governor and Commander
 in Chief of said Province and the Honourable his Majesty's Council: Humbly
shews,

David Copp, James Garvin and John Gage that at a Proprietors Meeting held at East-Town so called on the 28th day of June last your Petitioners were Voted a Committee to Petition your Excellency and Honors for an Incorporation of said Tract or Township:

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said Township beginning at the North-East corner of the Township of Rochester at Newichwanick River, and from said River running westerly by the head line of Rochester five miles, and from that extent upon a strait Line parallel with the General Course of the said River as a strait line may be run at the said River & continuing the breadth of five miles adjoining said

River & bounds of the Province so far northwardly as to make equal to six Miles square in such form as that the head or northerly Boundary shall be a Line paralell with the head line of Rochester, and the westerly side Line to be strait from Rochester Line to the head Line of said Tract of Land, may be incorporated and invested with such powers & Privileges as other Towns in this his Majesty's Province usually have & enjoy; and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

DAVID COPP
JAMES GARVIN.

Portsmⁿ 29th August, 1774.

WARNER.

[Formerly No. 1, or New Amesbury, generally written New Almsbury, was granted by the Province of Massachusetts, in 1735, but incorporated by New Hampshire, September 3^d, 1774. ED.]

Petition of No. 1, or Essex Almsbury, now Warner, 1742.

To his Excelli Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Gov^r in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New hampshire; To the hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council

The humble petition of Capt. Thomas Rowell & Joseph Jewell in the name & by order of the proprators of a Township called N^o One, in the Line of Towns from Rumford to Connecticut River, Humbly *shewing*: That where-as the Province of the Massachusetts in the year 1735, granted severall Townships & laid them out from Rumford to Connecticut River, among the Rest your Petitioners for services done, obtained a Grant of a Township of six miles square: Since which time your petitioners have laid out Two Divisions of Lots & Built a Saw mill thereon & cleared considerable of their Lots & done considerable in order for settling: But so it is, that by the determination of his Majesty in Council upon the Boundary Line between the Province of the Massachusetts & New Hampshire, the said Township lieth to the Northward of the s^d Boundary Line, & in the Government of New Hampshire:

Wherefore we your Excely^{ty} & Hon^{ty} most Humble Petitioners looking upon ourselves as suitable objects of favour & compassion as any of his Majesty's subjects, would therefore humbly pray your Excel^{ty} & Honors to take our case into your most wise & just consideration & alow & confirm unto your most

Humble petitioners the afores^d Town ship & give us such suitable & convenient time for bringing forward the setelment as your Excel^t & Hon^{rs} in your great wisdom shall judge most fitt & convenient: And your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

THOMAS ROWELL
JOSEPH JEWELL.

Essex Almsbury, May
the 12: 1742.

Bounds.

The Bounds of a Township, called New Almsbury, granted December 24th 1767, To Jonathan Barnard, &c. Viz.

Beginning at a place called and known by the name of Contoocook, thence running North fifteen degrees West six miles, then running from each end of this line west five degrees South six miles, then crossing and running over on a strait course from one end of these last mentioned lines, at the end of the said six miles to the other, so as to make up the Quantity of six miles square and no more

Attest, Geo. Jaffrey, Prop^r Cler.

Meeting of Inhabitants.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of New Almsbury, so called, legally worn'd and held at their meeting house on Tuesday y^e 29th day of March A. D. 1774, at one of the clock in the afternoon, Voted at the above said meeting that wee should be glad to have the town incorporated.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of New Almsbury so called legally worn'd & held at the meeting house on Monday y^e 25 day of July A. D. 1774, at one of the clock in the afternoon, Voted at said meeting that Capt. Francis Davis should go and gitt the town incorporated.

A true Copy taken of the } Attest Daniel Flanders,
Society Book of Records } Clark for said Society.

Petition for Incorporation, by Francis Davis.

Province of }
New Hampshire }

To his Excellency John Wentworth, Esquire, Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire And to the Honorable his Majesty's Council:

The Petition of Francis Davis humbly shews:—That at a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Township of *New*

Almsbury on the 25th day of July last, a vote passed empowering your Petitioner to make application to your Excellency & Honors for an Incorporation of said Township.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that the said Township of New *Almsbury* may be incorporated by the following Bounds, viz.

“Beginning at a Place called & known by the Name of *Con-toocook*, thence running north fifteen degrees West six miles, then running from each end of this line West five degrees South six miles, then crossing & running over on a strait course from one end of these last mentioned lines at the end of the said six miles to the other, so as to make up the Quantity of six miles square and no more.”

Your petitioner begs leave to suggest to your Excellency and Honors that the said Township consists of upwards of fifty Families & settlers, that they have had a Minister settled & have paid Province taxes two years, and that their Roads are in want of repair. He therefore most humbly prays that your Excellency & Honors will grant the Prayer of this his Petition, and as in duty bound he will ever pray.

FRANCIS DAVIS.

Portsm^o 3^d Septem^r 1774.

WEARE.

[This town was incorporated September 21, 1764, and received its name in honor of Hon. Meshech Weare. Ed.]

Petition of Inhabitants of Hale's Town, now Weare.

Province of } To his Excellency Bening Wintworth Esq^r
New Hampshire } Capt. General and Governor and commander in Chief in and over this his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Honourable his Majesty's Counsel.

the Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of that Tract of land known by the name of *Hails Town*, otherwise called Col^o Weares Town, Humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioners are under grate disadvantages for want the Priviligs of other Towns in this Province in chusing Town officers and laying out and manding High-Ways, gitting and supporting a Minister and maney other things that are Netsetry for the good and Beannfit of the Town: Where-

for your Pettitioners Humbly pray your Excelency and Honors to in Corprate us into a Town granting us all the Prebilidgs and Immunitys of other Towns in this Provence, and your Pettitioners as in Dutey Bound shall ever pray.

Dated at Hailes Town this 3^d day of April, 1764.

Asa Heath
Stephen George
Caleb Emory
Thomas Worthly
Nathaniel Corliss
John Mudget
Jeremiah Corlles
Faxon ? Quinbe
William Hutchins
Josiah Brown
John Jewell

Jeremiah Allen
Stephen Emerson
Stephen Emerson, jr
Benony Coben
Bond Little
Jacob Jewell
Abraham Johnson
Jonathan Atwood
John Simons
William Darling.

WENTWORTH.

[Wentworth was granted Nov. 1, 1766, to John Page, Esq. and others. The paper which follows was found in a mutilated state. It appears to be a List of those who had original Rights in the Township of Wentworth and made improvements thereon. See MS. Vol. VI. p. 393. Ed.]

* * * Those original Rights in the Township of Wentworth *
* * is improvement made on, viz.

Rev^d Mr. Webster.

— Page owned by the Rev^d Mr. McClintock

— March, owned by the Rev^d Mr. Noble.

— am Parker Esq.
— athan Bachel—

Elijah True

Eliphalet Coffin

David Greeley

Stephen Edmands

William Hacket

} Owned by Wm. Hacket & Joseph Page.

Jacob Bayley Esq.

Parker Cooper

Samuel Palmer

John Colman

Phillips White

Capt. Nathaniel Bachelder

Peter Russell

Joseph Eastman

John White

Wm. White

Daniel Fogg

Henry Merrill

Isaac Brown &

Capt. Thomas Elkins

} Owned by
Phillips White &
Sons.

Sam^l Page

Sam^l Page jun.

Ephraim Page

Jonathan Greeley jun

Enoch Page

Dier Hook

Stephen Scales

Josiah Bartlet, Esq

Theophilus Stevens

Jonathan Evans

Wm. True

} Owned by
Samuel White
Esq^r

WESTMORELAND.

[Formerly called *Great Meadows*; was settled in 1741. ED.]

Petition of Inhabitants.

The Petition of the Inhabitants now resident at the *Great Meadows* on Connecticut river with other the inhabitants below on the said River, to the Gentlemen Petitioners for the Equivalent Land lying on the western side of the said River, conven'd at Worcester May the 13th 1752.

GENTLEMEN—We have made this place the constant and settled place of our abode for several years before the last French and Indian War and have sustained many distressing losses from the French and Indian enemy during the time and continuance of the s^t war; Particularly our houses were burned, our cattle kill'd, some of our persons captivated and others put to death; we were confined to the small inclosure of a Garrison or Fort in which we were harried with the continual Incursions of the Enemy; wee were deprived of the advantage of our crops by reason of the constant lurking of the Enemy, and not having souldiers sufficient for so small a number of Inhabitants to remain unmoveable were obliged to withdraw and desert our habitation which we enjoy'd peaceably not as tenants to any gentlemen whatsoever, but in freehold as others of his Majesties faithful and loyal subjects; and upon our leaving our Fort immediately the Enemy burn'd the same down to the ground to our greater Damage with near the one half of our goods then present on the spott. After our departure we remained in the warrs for subsistance for ourselves and families who was then without habitation.

And now we are informed of the goodness of the Gentlemen Petitioners for the said Equivalent land in which we abide, that there is room left for such as wee to come in with them as proprietors to the said land, and hereupon wee send that we may have the same conferr'd on us, which we do now request and petition for hoping as this is seasonably sent to the proprietors by the first opportunity wee had, do hope you will please to take into deep consideration these our past difficulties afore mentioned, and but just hinted at, you'll do by us accordingly, as also, inasmuch too, as we were absent but part of the space of two years from the said land: and wee do also Certify you, gentlemen, that wee were at the entire cost and expence of our Fort ourselves without the help of any person or persons whatsoever, but particularly Major Willard or any of his Relations whatsoever. which we are ready further to confirm by our Oaths; and forasmuch as some of us hath

been settled on the spot for near fourteen years past without molestation or hindrance, and some of us hath lost three houses past and now live in the fourth house, to our further Expence;—Therefore wee humbly Leave the same with you Gentlemen and hope to hear an answer from you to our satisfaction, wishing and praying you the full and perfect grant according to your petition, and conclude ourselves, Gentlemen, your most Humble and Obliged Petitioners & ser^{ts}

These now living	{	JOSEPH PERRY
at the Great		STEPHEN DAVIS
Meadows.		PHILLIP ALEXANDER
Dwelling	{	JOHN ALEXANDER
on the		MICHAEL GIBSON
Land		MOSES WRIGHT.

To the Gentlemen Petitioners for the Great Meadows.
Great Meadows, May 4, 1752.

WILTON.

[The first settlement in this town was made in 1738, by three families from Danvers, Ms., two by the name of Putnam, and one by the name of Dale. The town was incorporated, June 25, 1762, and derived its name from an ancient borough in Wiltshire, Eng. Before incorporation it was called No. 2. ED.]

Deed from Joseph Blanchard, Esq.

Province of } Pursuant to Power and Authority granted & vested
New Hampshire } in me by the Proprietiers of Lands purchased of
John Tufton Mason Esq^r in the Province of New
Hampshier by their votes passed at their meeting
held at Portsmouth in said Province the 16 Day of
June A: D. 1749:

I DO, By these Presents, on the terms and conditions hereafter express'd, Give and Grant unto Thomas Read, Esq^r Rob^t Fletcher, Jun., Joseph Blanchard, Jun., Oliver Colburn, Oliver Ferwel, John Usher, Thomas Spalden, John Lovel, jun. Peter Powers, Humphrey Hobs, John Combs, Joseph Blodget, Sam^l Fowl, Josiah Swan, Ezra Carpenter, Jonathan Cumings, Thomas Parker, jun John Farnum, Will^m Foster, Rev^d Mr. Thomas Parker, Josiah Butterfield, Anthony Emery, Benjamin Parker, jun. Nehemiah Abbot, Sam^l Greeley, Benjamin Ferwell, Oliver Whiting, Joseph Richardson, Benj^m Ferley, John Kindall, Abraham Kindal, David Adams, Joseph French, Elizur Blanchard, Zacheus Lovwel, Sam^l Ferley, Will^m Cumings, Jonathan Powers, Sam^l Cumings, Archelus Dale, Jacob Putnam, Nathan Putnam, John Dale, Stephen Heriman, John Shed and Ephraim Putnam:—all the rights title and property of the Grantors aforesaid, of, in, and to all that part

of a Township or Tract of Land in the Province of New Hampshire afore s^d, containing Five miles square, Lying on the branches of Souhegan River, between Peter-Borough & Monson, Bounded as follows: Beginning at the South West Corner of the Premises at a White Pine Tree which is the North West Corner of the Township No. 1, and runs from thence North Five Miles to a White Ash mark'd; from thence East Five Miles to a Stake and Stones: from thence South five miles to a Chestnut Tree Mark'd; from thence West Five miles to the white Pine tree first mentioned: Which s^d Township is laid out & Drawn for & ascertained to each Grantee respectively; Also, two Lots for encouragement of or Building of Mills, and three shears for Publick use, Viz. one for the first settled minister, one for the Ministry, and one for the School there forever: which said shares and Lots to be the same as drawn and allready entered in the Schedule and Plan hereunto annexed, unto them respectively & to their heirs and Assigns; To HAVE and to HOLD, on the following terms and condition and Limitations, and on them only,—that is to say, That a Meeting-house be built on the Lot No. 11 in the Fifth range, and that in the South West Corner of s^d Lott there be six acres of Land in a square for me Reserved, & appropriated for the Publick use of those who Do or shall hereafter Inhabit in s^d Township; that the remaining lands not entered to the Grantees in the Schedule & Plan as afore specified in the Bounds of the Township, be and hereby are reserved to & for the use of the Grantors of the Premises, their Heirs & assigns forever, free and clear from all charges, tax or Incumbrance of settlement, untill their or any of their Parts are improved respectively by their or some some holding under them; the aforesaid named Grantees exclusive of their Publick Lotts, shall carry on, perform and make settlement at their *one* expence in the following manner, viz. That there be all Necessary High ways laid out in said Town where they will be most convenient, without any pay or allowance to those Grantor, Grantors or Grantees, through whose Land the same shall go, that the Grantees build a convenient house for the publick worship of God there, and finish the same at or before the last day of Nov^r 1752 for the use of those who shall then or afterward inhabit there; that they the s^d Grantees after Five years from the Date hereof maintain Preaching there; that there be on some one Lot of each of Forty of said Grantees shears, 3 acres of Land cleared enclosed and fitted so far as is Profitable for mowing or Tillage, at or before the last Day of November 1751, and each of the said Lotts to be cleared afores^d to be settled, having a House of sixteen feet square at the least, and seven feet stud or more, with a chimney and a cellar finished and fitted for a comfortable dwelling therein, at or before the last day of May 1752, & some family or person inhabiting or Residing in s^d dwelling House, & they or some other in each of their stead continue residing there untill the last of May 1755: that the owners of the said Forty settling shears have on each of their Rites respectively three acres of land more in like manner fitted, at or before the last day of November 1752; and the like quantity annually for two years next coming; that the remaining Five Rights or shears of the Grantees aforesaid, viz. Oliver Ferwell, Benjamin Ferwell, Joseph Blanchard, jun. Elizur Blanchard, and one Right of Robert Fletcher jun. Excused from the duty of building improving or settling untill the last day of Nov^r 1755, and then to have the whole performed as others at that time; that each of the s^d Grantees at the executing this Instrument, pay their thirty Pounds cash old Tennor to Defray the Necessary charges arisen & arising in bringing forward the settlement, to be Disposed in the hands of such person as they shall apoint, being a Resident and Freeholder in said Province; that the aforesaid Grantees or their Assigns, Assess such

further sum or sums of money equally in proportion to their Rights, on the share of each Grantee, exclusive of the three Publick Lotts, as may be necessary carrying on & compleating any of the Publick matters in making the settlement aforesaid, and on the failure of the Payment for the space of three months after such Tax or assessment is agreed upon & Posted up at such place or places as the Proprietors, the grantees aforesaid, shall appoint, to Give Notis for calling Proprietors Meetings, shall so much of such Delinquents Rights respectively be Disposed of by a Committee chosen by the Major part of the Grantees for that purpose, as will pay the s^t Tax & all charges arising thereon, and in case any of s^d Grantees shall Neglect or Refuse to pay or perform any of the articles aforementioned, he shall forfeit his shear and Right in said Township to those of the Grantees who shall not then be delinquent in the Performance of the condition enjoined, and it shall and may be Lawful for them by their agent or agents appointed by the major part of those not Delinquent, for that purpose enter into & upon the Right of such Delinquent Owners and him to amove out and expel for their heirs and assigns, Provided they settle such Delinquents Rights within the term of one year after the Period that is by the Indenture stipulated as the condition of the Grant, and fully comply with the whole of the Duty such Delinquent ought to have done, within the term of one year from time to time after the respective period thereof; in case they omit complying as afores^d in that term as afores^d, that all such Delinquents Right shall evert and belong to the Grantors, their heirs & assigns for ever, free from all incumbrance of settlement or charge, always Provided there be no Indian War within any of the terms and Limitations afores^d, for doing the Duty conditions in this Grant, and in case that should hapen, the same time be alowed for the respective matters afores^d, after such impediment shall be removed; That all White Pine Trees fit for masting his Majesties Royal Navy, be & are hereby granted to his Majesty his heirs & successors forever.

Lastly, The said Grantors do hereby Promise to the Grantees, their heirs & assigns, to Defend through the Law to the King & Council, if need be, one action that shall and may be brought against them or any number of them by any person or persons whatsoever claiming the s^d land or any part thereof by any other title than that of the s^d Grantors or that by which they hold and derive theirs from, Provided the said Grantors are avouched in to Defend the same and that in case on Final Tryal the same shall be Recover'd against the Grantors, the Grantees shall Recover nothing over against the Grantors for the said Lands, Improvement or Expencc in bringing forward the Settlement.

In witness whereof, I. the subscriber, Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable, have hereunto set my Hand & Seal this First Day of October 1749.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

Seal.

NOTE, BY THE EDITOR. The Plan and Schedule above referred to, containing the Names of the Grantees and the lots drawn by them, is annexed to the above Deed of conveyance, but it is impracticable to print it in form, without engraving. [See said Plan on MS. p. 302 of Town Papers, Vol. VI.]

Petition for Incorporation.

To his Excell^y Bening Wentworth, Esq. Gov^r &c. in the Province of New Hamp^r and the Honourable his Majesty's Council of said Province:

The Petition of us the subscribers being Inhabitants of a Tract of Land in said Province of the contents of five miles square called and known by the name of Num^r 2; which Township bounds Northerly on Lyndeborough westerly & Southerly on Peterborough Slip and Num^r 1, Easterly on y^e Mason's Grant not taken up—which Tract of land is considerably settled & Improved, and is this year Taxed to the Province with other Towns:

We would therefore Humbly request of your Excell^y & Hon^{rs} that we may be Incorporated into a Township and be invested with such Privileges and Immunities as other Towns have and do Enjoy in this Province. for y^e more easy carrying on our Public affairs &c. and that the said Corporation may be Bounded according to the Grant of the said Township, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

June 18, 1761.

James Man
John Cram
Jonathan Stevens
Heaziah Hamlet
Alexander Milicen
John Deale
John Burton
Philip Putnam
Jacob Putnam
Ebenezer Perry
Jonathan Grele
Hugh Snylie

Henry Snow
William Gibson
Samuel Kinkeed
William Mansur
Robert Smith
William Vance
Robert Renken
David Barker
Samuel Mansur
John Daveson
Benjamin Thomson.

NOTE.—The Town was incorporated, next year, by the name of Wilton. Ed.

Province of } To the Gen^l Assembly of the Province of New
New Hamp^r } hampr

Humbly *sheweth* us the Subscribers, that in the year 1761, we were selectmen for the Town of Monson, and as such took an Inventory of the Poles and Estates of the Inhabitants of the Township of Number two, and Returned it to the Sec^r office in Ports^r according to the Direction given us in the Orders from the Assembly relating the same, which service took us two days each, for which we charge sixteen pounds old

Ten^r and beg the same may be allow'd & paid to Joseph Blanchard—which much oblige y^r most ob^t Serv^{ts}

NATHAN HUTCHINSON
BENJ^a KENRICK.

Octo^r 8, 1764.

Province of } In the House of Representatives, Feb^r 7th 1765.

New Hamp^r } The above Petition being read,
Voted, That it be allowed and paid to their order Joseph Blanchard,
Esq. sixteen shillings proclamation money out of the Treasury.
16s.

A. Clarkson, Clerk.

In Council, March 6th 1765.

Read & concurred.

T. Atkinson, Jun. Sec^r.

Consented to

B. WENTWORTH.

WINCHESTER.

[This town was originally granted and settled under Massachusetts, and first was called *Arlington*. It was chartered by New Hampshire July 2, 1753, to Josiah Willard (1) and others, who had effected a settlement as early as 1732. ED.]

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of } Portsmouth, Feb. 29, 1750.
New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth,
Esq^r Captain General & Commander in
Chief in & over his Majesty's s^d Province, and to the Hon^{bl}
his Majesties Council of said Province :

The Petition of Josiah Willard Esq^r in behalf of himself & others Inhabitants & settlers of a Place called *Winchester*, bordering on Connecticut River within this Province, humbly *sheweth* :

That your Petitioners were induced about eighteen years ago to go into the Wilderness to settle & improve the aforesaid Tract of Land, being told it was within the Mass^a government, which Government made them & Predecessors a Grant of the Land, as by a Plan herewith exhibited the Bounds may appear, & also invested them with all the Powers & Priveleges of a Town within the said Government of the Massachusetts aforesaid; That in consequence hereof about

(1) There is a tradition that Josiah Willard, one of the principal grantees, refused to have Dartmouth College located in Winchester, on the ground that it would have a tendency to depreciate the value of his possessions! ED.

fifty Families have at sundry times settled & made Improvements there, that above forty dwelling Houses were built on the same & a meeting House for the publick Worship, & a minister settled there (1): But so it happened that by ascertaining the divisional Line between this government & that of the Massachusetts, the said Town fell to y^e Northward of y^e said Line & consequently within this his Majesties Government; in consequence of which we had no Power of transacting any Town affairs such as choosing Town officers, making & collecting assessments for defraying the charge of the Ministry, school, Poor, making & clearing Roads &c: That they have once had all their private Buildings & meeting House burnt by the Enemy & were forced to retire with exceeding great loss; that since the Peace they are collected & got upon the Premises again & have many Houses built & more building, but for want of Town Privileges as above, are in a most unsettled & uncomfortable situation.

Wherefore Pray, that your Excellency and Honours would be graciously pleased to grant them a Charter of Incorporation (with all such Town privileges as are usually granted to other Towns in this Province) agreeable to the Bounds described in the Plan herewith exhibited (2), which are the same as heretofore they imagined to be their Bounds:—& your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Petition for relief.

Province of } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
New Hamp^r } Gov^r &c. in & over his Majesty's Province of
New Hamp^r the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council
& House of Rep^{ts} in Gen^l Assembly convened:

Josiah Willard of Winchester in the Province of New Hamp^r in behalf of himself & the Inhabitants on Connecticut River & towns adjacent within this Province wou'd most humbly remonstrate:—

That there is began and a considerable progress made in settlement of the Towns on that river for near forty miles to the Northward of the Massachusetts line, as well as severall other settlements about ten miles distant from said River:

That they are left exposed to the cruelty and depredations of the Indians—late instance thereof they have had—and

(1) The first minister was Rev. Joseph Ashley, a graduate of Yale College in 1730; was ordained Nov. 12, 1736; removed in 1747, on account of the Indian war. Ed.

(2) The Plan is not found by the Editor, in this connection.

The American Medical Association is a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the interests of the medical profession and the public. It was organized in 1847 and has since that time been the leading organization of the medical profession in this country. Its membership is composed of physicians, surgeons, dentists, and other medical practitioners. The Association's principal activities are the publication of the Journal of the American Medical Association, the holding of annual conventions, and the promotion of medical education and research. The Association also maintains a large library of medical books and journals, and it has a number of other departments and committees which are engaged in various activities for the benefit of the medical profession and the public.

The Journal of the American Medical Association is a weekly publication which contains a large amount of original research, clinical reports, and other material of interest to the medical profession. It is one of the most important sources of information for physicians and other medical practitioners. The Journal is published by the American Medical Association, and its circulation is one of the largest of any medical journal in the world. The Journal is also available in a number of foreign languages, and it is widely read by medical practitioners in many countries. The Journal's content is carefully selected and edited, and it is of high quality and interest. It is a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in the medical profession and the public health.

apprehend themselves in the utmost hazard of suffering by their hands, unless some proper defence can be made by this Govern^t:

That in the French war the greatest part of those Towns were left defenceless, drove of, their forts & Buildings & much of their Estate destroyed by y^e Indians, besides the Slaughter & captivation of y^e Inhabitants:

That they have vigorously renewed their settlement since that war, and are now upwards of two hundred familys, the greatest part of whose Estates are wholly there, and if constrain'd (for want of Defence) to make that part of the Province a dereliction, they will be left in very distressing circumstances as well as the Frontier much increased:

That the contiguous parts of the Frontier of the Massachusetts are amply Defended by a number of their troops employed there, so that we at present are the only easy prey the Indians can have:—

Wherefore 'tis most humbly requested, that y^r Excellency & Hon^{ty} wou'd consider of the Premises & grant them necessary & speedy Relief:—which is most humbly submitted by y^r Excellencies & Hon^{ty} most humble and most obedient serv^t

JOSIAH WILLARD.

Portsmo', Jan^y 3^d 1755.

In Council, Jan^y 16, 1755.

Read & ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} Assembly recommend^d Theodore Atkinson, Sec^y.

WINDHAM.

[Windham formerly belonged to Londonderry, and was incorporated as a Parish February 12, 1742. It was the third Parish of Londonderry. ED.]

NOTE.—Sundry papers relating to Windham, with Mr. Bryant's Plan of the Parish, may be found among the Londonderry Papers—which see. ED.

Petition of James Reid and William Parker.

Province of } To his Excelency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Gov-
New Hamp^r } ernor & Commander in Chief in and over his
Majestys Province of New Hampshire in
New England, the Hon^{bl} his Majesty's Council & House of
Representatives for said Province in General Court convened, the 31st Day of July Anno Dom. 1740.

Humbly shew, James Reed of Londonderry in the Prov-

1. The following information was obtained from a review of the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, regarding the land owned by the United States in the State of California.

2. The total area of land owned by the United States in the State of California is approximately 10,000,000 acres.

3. The land is owned by the United States in several different capacities, including as follows:

4. (a) Land owned by the United States in fee simple.

5. (b) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the people of the State of California.

6. (c) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the Indians of the State of California.

7. (d) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the public.

8. (e) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the State of California.

9. The following table shows the approximate area of land owned by the United States in the State of California, in each of the above categories:

10. (a) Land owned by the United States in fee simple.

11. (b) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the people of the State of California.

12. (c) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the Indians of the State of California.

13. (d) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the public.

14. (e) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the State of California.

15. The following table shows the approximate area of land owned by the United States in the State of California, in each of the above categories:

16. (a) Land owned by the United States in fee simple.

17. (b) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the people of the State of California.

18. (c) Land owned by the United States in trust for the benefit of the Indians of the State of California.

ince of New Hampshire, yeoman & William Parker of Portsmouth in said Province, Gent. as agents for and in behalf of the new Parish in said Londonderry:—

That at the last Session of this Hon^{bl} Court sundry of the Inhabitants of Londonderry afores^d exhibited a Petition praying that they (with others) might be erected & incorporated into a new Parish with the usual Powers & authorities granted in the like cases:

That accordingly an Act was past by which a new Parish was erected & incorporated within said Londonderry by certain metes & bounds set forth in the said Act with the usual powers & authorities of a Parish. by which Act the first meeting of the said Parishioners was to have been in March last; But so it happen'd that no Persons were named & appointed to call the first meeting in & by said Act, tho' a blank is therein left for the names of such Persons as this Hon^{bl} Court should sec meet to appoint; Whereby the ends & purposes of the said Act are intirely prevented and can in no measure take effect until something farther shall be done in the premises.

Wherefore your Petitioners in behalf of their principals most humbly pray that proper persons may be appointed to call the first meeting of the said Parishioners. and that they may be enabled to call the same forthwith, and that when the said Parishioners are assembled they may have the same power and authority as if their meeting had been held in March last, & the officers that shall be chosen at the same as fully impower'd to discharge the duty of their respective offices for the remaining part of the curr^t year & until new ones shall be chosen as if they had been chosen in March last pursuant to the said Act;—And y^r Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

JAMES REID
WILLIAM PARKER

In the House of Representatives, Augth y^r 5th 1740.

The within Petition was read and voted, that the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that John McMurphy, Geo: Duncan, jun. & James Akins be the p^{rs}ons to call the first meeting on the first Wednesday in September next: and that the Petitioners have liberty to bring in a Bill Accordingly.

James Jeffrey, Clk. ass^{na}

In Council, Eod^{na} die.

Read & concurred.

Rich^d Waldron, Sec^y.

Same day,

Assented to.

J. BELCHER.

Incorporation of Windham as a Parish.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Magnæ Britaniæ, Franciæ and Hiberniæ, Decimo Quarto &c.

An Act for Incorporating a New parish in the Township of Londonderry in the Province of New Hampshire.

Whereas sundry of the Inhabitants of the Southern part of Londonderry aforesaid have petitioned this Court representing their circumstances to be such as made it necessary to Incorporate them into a new parish & that the other part of the Town was willing they should be so Incorporated by the Boundaries particularly set forth in their Petition, and praying that it might be accordingly done:—which Representation having been examined by this Court and found true as to the substance thereof:

Be it therefore Enacted, By his Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court Assembled, and by the authority of the same It is hereby Enacted and ordained, that a new Parish shall be erected in the said township of Londonderry and hereby incorporated, and made by the name of *Windham*, and is comprehended within the following metes and Boundaries, (viz.) Beginning at the Dwelling House of one John Hopkins of said Londonderry, yeoman and from thence running on a due west course to Beaver brook so called: then beginning again at the said house at the place where it began before (so as to have the said house to y^e Northward) and from thence to run on a due East course till it Comes to y^e Easterly line of said Londonderry, thence to run as said Line runs till it comes to the southerly boundary of said Londonderry, then to run to Westward as the said boundary runs till it comes to the said Brook, and then to run as the said Brook runs untill it comes to the place on the said Brook where the said West line runs across the same:— Excepting out of these limits the poils and estates of John Archibald, James Clark, James Moor, John Hopkin, and John Cochran and their respective families: And the said Parish shall be and hereby is invested with all the powers and Authorities that y^e severall Towns in this Province are invested with, and likewise shall have, hold and enjoy the same privileges, immunities and liberties that the said towns hold and enjoy by the Laws and customs in use and force within the Same: Saving only the chusing of a Representative in the General Court, in which matter the Inhabitants of s^d Parish are to joyn with the other Inhabitants of said town; as also in what concerns the Common Lands in the said township; And the Inhabitants of the said Parish and the Estates within the same (saving those before excepted—) are hereby exonerated & discharged of and from all duties, services and burthens:— and the payment of all taxes, rates and charges to any other part of the said town, Excepting what relates to sending and supporting a Representative at the General Court, the dividing or managing the Common Lands aforesaid and such taxes, rates and charges as are already proportioned, assessed within the said town.

And Be it further Enacted, by the authority aforesaid, That Robert Dinsmoor, Joseph Waugh and Robert Thomson are hereby authorized and appointed to call the first meeting of the Inhabitants of the said Parish on the eighth day of March next; in the performance of which as also in the management and Regulation of the said meeting, The laws relating to such matters and the customs in force in said Province are to be attended and observed: And the officers that shall be chosen by the said Inhabitants at the said meeting regulated as aforesaid, shall be and hereby are authorized and impowered, being first qualified Ac-

ording to Law, to execute, observe, do and fulfill all and singular the authoritys, powers and duty's, and hold and enjoy the privileges, profits and immunities appertaining to their respective offices, that such officers in the several towns aforesaid execute, hold and enjoy and as effectually to all intents and purposes;—provided that the inhabitants of the said Parish shall from time to time provide, maintain and support an orthodox minister of the Gospel among them:

February, y^e 10, 1741. In the house of Representatives the above Bill read three times and past to be enacted.

Andrew Wiggin, Speaker.

Feb'y 12, 1741-2. Read three times at y^e Council Board and past to be enacted.

Richard Waldron, Sec'y.

Feb'y 12, 1741-2. I assent to the enacting this Bill.

B. WENTWORTH.

(A true Copy—Attest—

Sam^r Campbel, Clerk.)

Deposition of James Gilmore.

The Deposition of James Gilmore of lawful age, doth testify & say that he being Constable in Windham for the year 1743, collected the Province tax of all the Inhabitants within s^d Parish in its original bounds, committed to his List.

James Gilmore.

Certificate. [A rare specimen.]

Province of } Sallam. January the 19th, year 1757? than the a bove
New hamp^r } named Jemes Gillmor apeard Before me and Being carefully Eaxamind to and casined to tastify the holl truth mad sollam oth to the truth of the above written Dickclarison By him him subscribed it Being taken at the Request of Oliver Sanders to Be yousd in the Jenerill A Samble of said Province Realting to a patision loged with the said a samibly Relating to the Destrict Raats of Methuen for an axamishun from said Rates.

Sworn Before me this Day and Dat above menshuned.

Daniel Peaslee, just of the pece.

[A similar Deposition was made by John Vance, constable, of collecting taxes, in 1747; which was also certified by Daniel Peaslee, in form as above, Jan^y 20, 1757. ED.]

Petition in relation to an irregular Parish meeting.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, the 11th day of Decemb^r 1746.

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Windham in said Province, *shews* :

That the selectmen of said Parish for the current year, by their Warrant or Notification dated the 20th of June last, called a meeting of the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the same, to have been holden on the 7th day of July following, but held in September last by adjournment, for the following purposes, viz. First, to see what Encouragement they would give for the settling of a Gospel Minister among them & what yearly salary. 2^{dly} to consider what sum might be proper to be raised for the maintenance of the Gospel among them according to their former way, or whatever else they might then think necessary.

Pursuant to which the meeting was afterwards held by adjournment as aforesaid & Voted on the first article of the Warrant to give Mr. Wm. Johnson (a gentleman who has preached there) the sum of three hundred pounds Old Tenor settling money, & two hundred pounds yearly salary. 2^{dly}, Voted on the last article of the Warrant, not to raise any money according to their former manner.

That there would not have been a majority of the Votes in favour of those Resolves had more been admitted to Vote but such as were qualified, but by admitting of disqualified Persons matters were carried against the majority, or at least an equal number of qualified voters:

That the said Meeting being a special or particular meeting nothing should have been transacted there but what was expressly mentioned in the warrant for calling of the same; and your Petitioners humbly conceive that neither of the articles mentioned in the said warrant could authorize the voters at that meeting to make choice of a man to be their minister, nor to give an invitation to any particular person to settle among them in that relation & whenever a meeting is call'd for that purpose being a point of great weight & Consequence ought always to be expressly set forth in the warrant as part of the intended business of the meeting & not to be comprised under any general expressions whatsoever.

That your petitioners apprehend, should such a design be fairly Notified & the meeting Regularly conducted, there would be a majority of the Votes against the choice aforesaid & in order to obtain such a meeting more than twenty-five of

the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the said Parish have since petition'd the select men afores^d for that purpose & mention'd in their petition sundry articles they would have inserted in the Notification for calling the Meeting: But the Selectmen have refused & utterly denied to do it:—all which with many other matters respecting the managem^t of said meeting too tedious to be here inserted your petitioners conceive to be just matter of grievance & complaints Wherefore they Humbly pray that the meeting held as aforesaid may be declared to be irregular & illegal & the proceedings thereof Null & Void; that a new meeting may be called for the purposes mentioned in the Petition to the selectmen afores^d (a copy of which shall be produced,) and some indifferentsuitable person be appointed to govern the said meeting, that so the minds of the Parish may be truly known relating to the matter in Dispute, and thereby a variety of Law-suits prevented: And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

William Jameson
 Samuel Armour
 Daniel Clyde
 Henry Campbell
 Francis Smiley
 Robert Dinsmoor
 Robert Hopkins
 William Campbell
 Joseph Clyde
 Hugh Clyde
 Robert Spear
 Francis Dinsmoor
 Samuel Campbell
 John Dinsmoor

William Jameson jun.
 William Gregg
 John Kyle
 John Dinsmoor, jun.
 Hugh Graham
 John Waddell
 Thomas Campbell
 Authur Graham
 John Willson
 Samuel Smith
 John Armstrong
 John Campbell
 John Mckay
 David Gregg.

In Council, December 11th 1746.

Read & ordered to be sent down to y^e Hon^{ble} House.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec.

Prov. of New Hampshire. } In the House of Representatives, Dec. 11, 1746.

Voted, That the within Petitioners be heard on the within Petition the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly after y^e seventeenth day of January next & that s^d Petitioners at their own cost serve the select men of s^d Windham with a Copy of this Petition & this order of Court, that they may appear & shew cause if any they have why the prayer of s^d Petition should not be granted.

D. Peirce, Clk.

In Council, December 13th 1746.

Read & concurrd.

Theod^s Atkinson, Sec^y.

Eodem Die,

Assented to

B. WENTWORTH.

Province of }
New Hampshire } Windham, January the 4th 1750.

Agreeable to a voate of the town att their meeting the 21st of December last, att which meeting it was voated to have an alteration of the line between Windham and Salem, and said Line having been Run to the content of both towns and no person having been chosen att said meeting to have the line confirmed between both Towns, we the subscribers being select men of Windham do appoint our trusty friend Samuel Campbell to act in the town of Windham's Behalf in our place to have s^d Line confirmed by the Governor and Council of s^d Province as witness our hand the day & year above.

John Wilson
Joseph Clyd,
Selectmen.

Province of }
New Hampshire } Windham, April 30th 1750.

By virtue of a Warrant Granted by the Selectmen of Windham aforesaid, and directed to the Constable of s^d Windham, to call a meeting of the Inhabitants & freeholders of s^d Parish, bearing deat November the 5, 1747, to be held the twintith day of s^d month the said meatting Being lawfully caled and held at Windham, afores^d and after consideration of s^d warrant

Voated to petition the General Court of s^d Province to have the Inhabitants liveing on the South East side of Policy Pond so caled to Bear and pay their equal part of all publick taxes with the other Inhabitants of s^d Parish, or to have them disannexed intirely from us and an addition mead to us else where as it shall be thought most proper.

A true copy, Pr.

William Gregg, Town Clark.

Paper relating to an Order from Court.

Province of }
New Hampshire } Windham, May 7th 1750.

Pershuant to an order from his Excelency Bennig Wentworth, Esq^r and the honorable his Majestes Council to the parish of Windham, to appear at Portsmouth the ninth instant to shew cause if any they had why the prayer of a petition preferred by Joseph Peasley Esq^r and other Inhabitants of Methuen district should not be granted, We the subscribers Being inhabitants and freeholders of Windham afores^d do hereby manifest our willingness that the prayer of s^d Petition should be granted, But not to have the said petitioners *powled* from us By any means Because of the evel consequences that have subsisted amongst us about the place of the meeting house and other affairs.

David Gregg
Henry Campbell
Thomas Ricky
Sam^l Campbell
John Cambell
Henry Cambell, jun
John Boyd
John Gregg
Hugh Graham
Thomas Campbell
Sam^l Smith

Hugh Smith
Sam^l Smith, jun
John Graham
John Waddel
John M^l Cay
Wm M^l Cay
John Kyll
Will^m Gregg
John Armstrong
Hugh Clyde
Daniel Clyd

John Clyd
 Hugh Brown
 Joseph Waugh
 Will^m Waugh
 Nathinel Hemphill
 James Dunlap
 James Caldwell
 James Caldwell, jun

Samuel Clyd
 John Kann
 Georg Davison
 Robert Hemphill
 James Galt
 Peter Daveson
 Clem^t ? Dunlap
 John Wilson.

Windham's caveat against Methuen.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth, Capt. Generall and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of Newhampshire, and the Honorable his Majesties Counsal now sitting in Portsmouth.

The humble suplication of us the Inhabitants of Windham, humbly *sheweth*—

That whereas your Exc^t & Honors have established the Bounds and under God has prevented the alteration of the shape of our town or Parish when a fue disaffected persons who were uneasy by Reason of the *Sate* for a meeting house not being to their liking, did endeavour to make a shism and destroy our little parish, and now hearing as the story came yesterday to be publick that some such Desine is affoot to the alteration of the shape of things with us, and that one of our disaffected bretherin with the consent of some others of his taste is gon Down to Portsmouth clandestinely on this affair, and if he appears before your Excell^y and Honours knowing the man we expect nothing else but that there will be a misrepresentation of our town and the present circumstances of it made: Therefore to prevent his ill natured satisfaction and to preserve the shape and Christean liberty and property of our town or parish we shue to your Excell^y and Honours who are and have been able under God to preserve the being and order of it in spite of shismaticks who disturb the peace and unity of Sociateas; and be it known to your Excellency and Honours that our Desirs in this is not in the least to oblige a Congregationall Brother to pay to the suport of our Presbyterian Minister but chearfully allowing as was some time since represented to your Excellency and Honours, the same Liberty to the Congregationalls in Windham as is to the Presbyterians in Chester, (viz.) to pay our own Minister, and so your petitioners relying on your Excell^y and Honors care and goodness in these things, as you are the being we are to flie to under our Difficulties in preserving our town in its form and proper order: So as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Alexander Park
 Alexander Park, jun.

Robert Park
 Robert Spear

Francis Dinsmore
 John Dinsmore
 James Brown
 Will^m Jamison
 Sam^l Armor
 Gain Armour
 Jonathan Morison
 Thomas Jamison
 James Brown
 Sam^l Morison
 John Cristy
 John Vance
 John Cochran
 Samuel Adams
 John Dauson (1)

William Adams
 Alexander Simpson
 David Bolton
 Adam Templeton
 Francis Smylie
 William Bolton
 John Morrow
 Samuel Kinkeed
 Nathan Man
 James Gillmor
 Hugh Smylie
 John Steuart
 William Thomb
 William Smylie
 William Jameson.

Warrant for a Town meeting at Windham.

New Hampshire:

To the Constable of the Parish of Windham in said Province, Greeting:

Whereas complaint is made to us the subscribers two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for the Province aforesaid, by upwards of thirty of the freeholders and Inhabitants of Windham aforesaid, That the Selectmen of said ——— have unreasonably denied and refused to grant a parish meeting in the Distre'st circumstances that the parish are in at present and the said petitioners having applied to us for Relief as the law directs, &c.

These are therefore in his Majesties name to command you forthwith to notifie and warn the freeholders and inhabitants of Windham aforesaid qualified by Law to assemble and meet at Samuel MacAdams Barn in Windham aforesaid upon Friday the eighth day of June next at ten of the Clock in the forenoon, then and there,

1st To chuse a Moderator for said meeting.

2^{dly} To see if the parish will prefer a petition to his Excelency our Governor and to the Honourable his Majesties Council for the Province aforesaid in order to have our parish restored to its former bounds and to act thereon as they shall see cause.

3^{dly} To see if they will chuse some fitt person or persons as an agent or agents to prefer said Petition and prosecute the same before his Excelency and Honours, and for your so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given under our hands and seals at Londonderry in said Province this twenty sixth day of May in the twenty third year of his Majesties Reign Anno Dom. 1750.

To Mr. Daniel Clyd, Constable
 for Windham aforesaid.

John Mac Murphy } Unus
 Robert Boyes } Quorum

I have published the above warrant according to Custom, Pr me,
 Daniel Clyd, Constable for Windham, this eight day of June 1750.

Attest—A true copy pr. William Gregg, town clerk.

(1) This name may be *Davison*. Ed.

By virtue of the foregoing Warrant granted by two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace for said Province for holding a parish meeting in Windham, the freeholders and Inhabitants, of Windham, aforesaid met at Samuel MacAdams Barn on the day appointed for said meeting, and after opening the meeting,

Voated on the first article of the above Warrant Robert Dinsmoor, for moderator of said meeting.

Voated on the second article of the above Warrant to petition the Governor and Council of this province for the things contained in said article.

Voated on the third and last article of the Warrant for agents to pre-fer a petition to the Governor and Council of this Province and prosecute the same, Samuel Morrison and John Dinsmoor.

A true copy from the minetts of said meeting.

Coppy examined

William Gregg, Town Clerk.

At a Parish Meeting held in Windham the sixteenth of January last, Voated on the third article of the foregoing Warrant not to make any addition to the Rev^d Mr. Johnston's Sallary at this time.

A true Coppey of said Voate.

William Gregg, Town Clerk.

[This seems to refer to another occasion of town meeting. Ed.]

Petition for an alteration in their Charter.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Capt. Generall and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New hampshire, and to the Honourable his Maj^{ty}s Council for said Province, conven'd,

The humble Petition of us the subscribers being Inhabitants and freeholders of Windham in s^d Province, humbly *Sheweth*:

That whereas on the sixth day of June Instant we, with a Committee of the Inhabitants of Salem, both parties being present with surveyor and chain-men sworn, have rune the several courses mentioned in Salem Charter and Plan of the town, and finding that they will not be convenient to both Towns if they Stand as they are:—We the subscribers therefore humbly prays that your Excelency & honours would consider us on that account and make an alteration in the Charter and plan which will tend to the Benifite and peace of both towns, and in so doing your humble petitioners will be in duty ever bound to pray;

The alteration to be made in manner following; that is to say—To Run from the Angle of Londonderry line South on said Line till it comes to the north Corner of Hitty-tity Pond so called, and there to erect a bound betwixt both towns; from thence south 39 degrees west to a Stake and Stons that was sett this day by both parties standing on the south west

corner of Pollicy Pond so called; thence South till it comes within sixty Rhods of John Obers, jun. dwelling house; thence South 23 degrees west to Pelham line; thence by Pelham line to the Province line.

Signed by us and dated this eighth day of June, Anno Dom. 1750.

And further your petitioners prays that John Dinsmore, Robert Spear and Samuel Armoore and their familys may be exempted oute of Salem to Windham where they did belong.

David Gregg
Henry Campbell
John Kyll
John Waddel
Thomas Richardson
Daniel Clyd
Joseph Waugh
James Dunlap
Hugh Brown
James Caldwell
James Caldwell, jun
Joseph Clyd
Will^m Gregg
Will^m Waugh

John Armstrong
Nathaniel Hemphill
Alex^r Dunlap
Sam^l Campbell
George Davidson
Hugh Clyd
John M^cCay
Thomas Campbell
Hugh Graham
John Campbell
John Gregg
John Willson
James Galt
Peter Patison.

Petition of Samuel Morrison and John Dinsmoor, jun.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council for said Province:

The humble Petition of Samuel Morrison & John Dinsmore both of Windham in said Province, yeomen, as Agents for said Windham *Shews*:—

That Windham is a Parish within the Township of Londonderry incorporated about the year 1742, which was done for the conveniency of the Inhabitants with regard to their attending the Public Worship of God, as they were situate at a great distance from each of the meeting-houses in said Londonderry, tho' they were scarcely able to support the charges incident to a separate Parish; yet as the Parish was of sufficient extent they were willing for the conveniency afores^d to bear the burthen which at first lay on them (tho' heavy) in hopes it would grow lighter every year by the addition of new Parishioners.

That a great part of the Northerly side of said Parish is very poor land incapable of any kind of Improvement so that the Parish would never have been rich & able like the other Parishes in said Town, had it remain'd of the same extent as

at first: But by the Incorporation of the Town of Salem lately made, near a third part of the said Parish is cut off, & comprehended within that Township, & the best land, which with what was excepted out of said Parish wth fell within the bounds, by the Act of Incorporation and the unimprovable Land, not only renders the Parish impotent at present, but puts it beyond all hopes of Recovery;—so that there can be no rational prospect of its continuance under such a situation in any respect but having an empty useless Name.

That this would have been truly and seasonably represented, But by the designed or careless management of one of the Selectmen, to whom the order or notice of Council that the Parish might be heard on Petition for the Township of Salem was delivered, they had no notice till it was too late, for the Selectmen could not undertake to make an answer without consulting the Parish & taking their orders thereon & they were so far from having the opportunity for that, that two of them knew nothing of it till the day appointed for the hearing, or near it, and then represented to be the week after.

And had a just representation of all circumstances been made, your Petitioners humbly conceive your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Board would not have granted the said Petition so much to the prejudice of said Parish, since as it now stands the case in effect is the Ruining an old corporation to erect a new one: Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that they may be heard in behalf of the said Parish upon the premises and that the Charter of Salem aforesaid may (so far as it interferes with the said Parish) be vacated, or that the said Parish may in some other way be relieved & prevented from being broken up & they be obliged to dismiss the minister they have settled; and your Petitioners in behalf of their principals shall as in duty bound ever pray, &c.

SAM^l MORISON
JOHN DINSMOOR, jun.

Portsmouth, June 29th 1750.

[NOTE. By virtue of a Warrant issued by John Wilson and Joseph Clyd, Selectmen of Windham, another Town meeting was called which met at Samuel McAdams Barn, on Friday the 21st of December, 1750, and agreeably to the warrant, acted on the articles specified. ED.]

Petition against the proceedings of said Meeting.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & Commander in Chief in over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire, and the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council for said Province :

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants & freeholders of the Parish of Windham in said Province, *shews* :

That the Selectmen of said Parish for the current year by their warrant or Notification dated the sixth of this Instant Dec^r, called a meeting of the freeholders & Inhabitants of the same, to be held the twenty first day of the same for the following purposes, (*viz.*)

First, to see if you will make any alteration in the late Line between us and Salem.

2^{dly} To see if you will begin at the westerly Angle of Londonderry, East line, and so running South to Hytity Pond, thence to Policy Pond, thence to the south-west Corner of the Same, thence to Pelham Line, so as to leave out the English people and include John Dinsmoor, Samuel Armour, Gaan Armour and Robert Spear and their families.

3^{dly} To see if you will Reconsider a vote pass'd on the third article of a warrant granted last June 8th

4th To see if the Town will allow the agents chosen at s^d meeting to prosecute the Business for which they were chosen any further.

Pursuant to which the meeting was held as a fore s^d and voted on the first article to alter the line afores^d

2^{ly} Voted on the second article to run a line as set forth in said Warrant. 3^{dly} Voted to reconsider the vote pass'd on the warrant afores^d. 4th Voted not to allow the agents chosen as afores^d to prosecute the Business for which they were chosen any further in behalf of Windham.

That there would not have been a majority of Voters in favour of those Resolves, had all those who we apprehend are qualified to vote been admitted, But by refusing such and admitting disqualified persons, matters were carried against a majority or at least an equal number of qualified Voters.

That the affairs of this Parish is in a very uncomfortable situation from the success which those who are at present the officers (with others of the same temper) have obtained by their underhand dealing, which leads to the utter ruin & Destruction of a poor Parish, unless your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Board (who are the only beings that can relieve us) redress our grievance.

Wherefore we humbly Pray that the meeting held as aforesaid may be declared illegal & irregular, & the proceedings thereof null and void, that thereby a Variety of Law-suits may be prevented, which are as moaths to a Society, and our adverse party frustrated in their exorbitant & unreasonable Demands & designs, and that what was done at s^d meeting may

not be confirmed by your Excellency and Honours. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Subscribed at Windham the 22^d Dec^r 1750.

Francis Smiley
James Gilmer
Alexander Park
John X Vane—mark
John X More—mark
John Dinsmour
Robert Spear
Sam^l Armore
Gain Armour
Fran^s Dinsmore
John Dinsmore, jun
Allax. Simpson
Adam Templton
John Davidson
Sam^l McAdams
Will^m McAdams
John Cristy
William Bolton
James Brown
Jonathan Morion

Francis Smith
Thomas Quigly
William Thom
Alex^r X Richy—mark
John Stuart
Robert Park
David Bolton
Tho^s McConnell
Will^m Jamison
Will^m Jameson, Jun
Thomas Jameson
John Dinsmoor, jun
Rob^t Hopkins
Sam^l Morison
Hugh Smylie
Alex^r Parkins
Nathan Man
Joseph Park
John Kyll

Certificate.

Salam Dseembr y^e 24th 1750.

At a Town meeting held on Monday y^e 24th Mr. Hanery Sanders chosen modratr for s^d meeting then their was a Vot to have en altraction of y^e line between Salam and Windham according to y^e agreement of each party Now as foloweth beginning at y^e angle of Londen Darry line then wroning to hitty Pond so col'd then over to y^e south west angle of Policy pond so col'd from thence a straight lin to Palham line so as to tak all the inglish inhabitnc to Salam.

A true copy taken out of Salam townd book.

Exam^d as

a tast Nath^l Dow Town^d Clerk

Deposition of Henry Sanders.

i the Deponent of Lawfull Age tastify and saith that the parsons hoas nams are hear aftr mensend are included within Provants line of Londary and within the Parrish of Wandham so called and father saith that he was fomily a inhabiter their and paid his provance tax to s^d Whindham.

Henry Sanders.

Names.

Joshua Thorndick
Isrell Woodbery
Wm. Leach
Jonathan Morgan
Nath^l Woodbery
Abiall Pitman
John Hill
John Grele
Edward Baley

Joseph Hull?
Benj. Corning
Georg Corning
John Corning
Eben^r Woodbery
John Ober, Esq^r
Robert Clin^l?
Jonath^a Woodbery
John Hall

Olover Kimbel
John Ober jun
John Dinesmore
Robert Spear
Samuel Armor
Andrew Balch

Timothy Sanders
Olover Sanders
John Ashley
Isrell Ober
Hugh Camell
Archer Churchwood.

[Sworn to January 31, 1757, before

Daniel Peasle Just. of the Pece.]

Warrant for a Town Meeting.

Province of } To Mr. Joseph Clyde Constable for Windham, Greet-
New Hampshire } ing:

You are hereby Required to warn the freeholders & Inhabitants of Windham duly qualified By Law to assemble and meet at James Dunlaps Barn on Munday the ninth day of March next at ten of the clock before noon then and there to act on the following particulars:

1st To chuse a moderator to govern said meeting.

2^{ly} To chuse Selectmen and town Clark and Constable for the following year.

3^{ly} To chuse assessors and Collectors for the inshuing year.

4^{ly} To chuse all other officers as usewall for the Inshuing year.

And when you have performed the service herein Required of this make Return and of your doings therein and this shall Be your Warrant. Given under our hands this 18th Day of february A D 1751-2.

Hugh Brown } Select
George Davidson } men

The above written Warrant was published according to custom by me, Joseph Clyde, Constable for Windham.

A true Copy, Will^m Gregg, Clark to the Parish.

Windham, March y^e 9th 1751-2.

By vertue of the above warrant from the Selectmen to the Constable of Windham for calling the annual meeting of the Parish, the freeholders and Inhabitants meet the time and place appointed in s^d warning meeting, and after opening the meeting the following persons chosen to their respective offices, viz.

For moderator

For Selectmen

For Parish Clark

For Constable

For Assessors

For collector of Ministers salary

For surveyors of high ways

For taking an Invoice

For Stewards?

John Armstrong

Hugh Brown

James Dunlap

James Caldwell, jun

Will^m Gregg

John Campbell

Will^m Gregg

Joseph Clyde

James Caldwell, jun

Nathaniel Hemphill

John Kerr

Alex^r Dunlap

Sam^l Campbell

Sam^l Archibald

John Dinsmoor*

John Morrow*

James Dunlap

James Caldwell, jun

John Kyll jun*

Alex^r Rickey*

For counters with the constable & collector,	Hugh Clyde John Gregg
For fence viewers & prisers of damage,	David Gregg Daniel Clyde
For tything men	Peter Patison Samuel McAdams*
*Those men with this mark refused to take the usual oaths.	
Coppy Examined,	Will ^m Gregg, Town Clerk.

A Town Meeting & Votes.

[NOTE. A town meeting called by warrant, met in James Caldwell's Barn, July 15th 1752, and acted on the following articles, viz.]

1st To see if you will chuse a Committee to settle the Town accounts with Rev^d Mr. Johnston.

2^d To see if you will chuse a committee to take up our Call or Calls from the Rev^d Mr. Wm. Johnston (1)

Signed by	James Dunlap } Hugh Brown } James Caldwell }	Selectmen.
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At which meeting chose Joseph Clyde, moderator.

1st Voated For a Committee to settle accounts with the Rev^d Mr. Johnston, viz. Will^m Gregg, Sam^l Campbell & John Dinsmoor.

Voated and Chose for a Comite to gett the Call from the Rev^d Mr. Johnston, viz. Hugh Brown, James Caldwell jun & John Vance.

Coppy Exam^d Will^m Gregg, Town Clerk.

Vote passed at another Town Meeting.

[NOTE. A warrant was issued for calling a town meeting, at James Caldwell's Barn, January 16, 1753.]

1st To see what method you will take to have the gospel preached amongst us this winter.

2^d "To see what you will allow the Committee that was chosen to take care of the ministerial Lot to do with the Logs lying cutt on it and the other fallen timber.

3^d "To see what you will allow the Constable to do with them that will not pay up their Reats." signed by

James Dunlap } James Caldwell } Hugh Brown }	Selectmen
--	-----------

At which meeting, chose Alexander Dunlap Moderator.

Voated and chosen for a Committee Nathaniel Hemphill and Joseph Waugh to go to the Rev^d Messrs Davidson and MacGregore of London-derry and Willson of Chester to see if each of them will preach a day for us: and further

Voated that James Caldwell, Treasurer is Impowered by this Voat to pay those Rev^d Gentlemen if they preach to us out of the money that is Collected and in the Constables hands

Voated on the second article of the Warrant That the Comitee that

(1) Rev. Wm. Johnston, minister of the Presbyterian Church in Windham, was installed there in 1747; he was dismissed in July, 1752. ED.

was chose to tak care of the ministeriall Lott are impowered by this Voat to sell the Logs and fallen timber on s^d Lott at publick Vendue to the highest bidder

Voated on the Last article of the warrant not to consider of it this time.

Copy Exam^d

Will^m Gregg, Town Clerk.

Petition relating to a disturbance in the Parish.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor & commander in chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

The Humble Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of Windham in said Province, *shews*:

That at the last Annual meeting of said Inhabitants for the choice of Town officers a difference arose among the said Inhabitants concerning the Right of voting: The Selectmen suffering sundry Persons expressly excepted in the Act for incorporating of Windham to vote there and sundry others who did not belong there & were not Inhabitants & only Occasionally in the Parish.

That a great Number of the Inhabitants then objected against such Proceedings, but to no purpose, they still proceeded; whereupon the objectors seperated & held a different meeting whereby there were two sets of officers chosen & sworn; but being doubtful of their authority on both sides neither party has acted in their offices and the whole Business of the Parish in consequence thereof has been neglected to this time.

That this is a great injury to the Minister & all others who have any concern with the Parish as well as to the Inhabitants in general and to leave the affair to the decision of the Law in the common course would be much more so not only by the expence but the delay which will be occasioned in that way, and as there is no Prospect of a Reconciliation the breach is likely to grow wider, for it all rests till the next annual meeting; the same Dispute will in all probability again arise with an additional controversy about calling the meeting.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray that the circumstances of the said Parish may be considered and that in your great wisdom & goodness you wou'd interpose & reduce their affairs in this regard into order; That you will make void both the said proceedings, appoint a proper person to call & govern a new meeting, that all grounds of Dispute respecting

the premises may be taken away or that you will relieve the said Parish in any other method which you shall judge best,—and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Feb. 2^d 1753.

Alexander Park
John Dinsmore
John Morrow
William Thom
Thomas Quigly
Will^m Thompson
John Stewart
Nathan Man
Alexander Simpson
Alexander Richy
John Cristy
Robert Spear
George Spear
Will^m Jamson
James Gillmore
Sam^l Armour
James Brown
Will^m Smylie
Francis Dinsmore
Hugh Boide
John Kyll

John Kyll jun.
Francis Smylie
Sam^l Morrison
Rob^t Park
Joseph Park
John Bolton
James Twadell
Wm. Bolton
Samuel McAdams
Andrew Armour
Gain Armour
John Dinsmore
Thomas Jamison
William Jamison
James Jamieson.
John Tufft
Adam Templeton
Samuel Thompson
Andrew Thompson
Samuel Kinkad.

[On the foregoing Petition a hearing was granted "on the third day of the sitting of the General Assembly next after the 10th of February inst.," and George Davison, Hugh Brown and Sam^l Cambell, selectmen for 1751, were summoned. Ed.]

Province of New Hampshire. In the House of Representatives February 22^d 1753.

Upon hearing the within Petition of Alexander Park and others and the Respondents, and considering the evidence produced by the Partys—

Voted, That the choice of both sets of officers made at the annual meeting referred to in said Petition was illegal, and that the said choice be and hereby is declared to be null and void: And that there be a meeting held in the said Parish of Windham on the first Tuesday of March next for the choice of Parish officers for the year 1753, and that Peter Gilman, Esq^r be and hereby is appointed & authorized to call the s^d meeting and to be the moderator of said meeting, and that the said Peter Gilman Esq^r put up or cause to be put up a notification of the time and place of meeting at the meeting house in said Windham and also at the dwelling house of John Christy Innholder in s^d Windham, at least four days before the time of holding said meeting.

Matthew Livermore, clerk.

In Council, Feb^r 23, 1753.
read & concurred.

Theod. Atkinson, Sec^r.

In Council 26th Feb^r

Consented to—

B. WENTWORTH.

Answer of Selectmen to the foregoing Petition.

To his Excellency Bening Wentworth, Esq^r Capt. General, Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New-Hampshire, the honorable his Majesty's Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

Samuel Campbell, George Davidson, Hugh Brown inhabitants of Windham in s^d Province, (who was Selectmen of the perrish of s^d Windham in the year 1751) who was by this honorable Court ordered to be served with a copy of a petition of some of the Inhabitants of s^d parrish, Dated the 2^d of February Instant to appear Before this honourable Counsel to shew cause if any they have why the prayer of the s^d Petition should not be Granted &c. The Respondents humbly shew—That the said petition is not genuin but groundless and fallacious in Divers Respects; as first, It is therein shown forth that at y^e last anual meeting of s^d parrish there arose a Disput Relating to y^e Right of Voting in s^d meeting and that y^e Selectmen suffered sundry persons expressly exempted in the Act for y^e Incorporating of Windham to Vote there; which asertion is intirely groundless and without any foundation—there being only five persons with their respective familys and Estates that were exempted in s^d Incorporation, and nether of them were present at s^d meeting.

2^{dly} There Asertion in s^d petition that there was sundry others that were not Inhabitants nor Did not belong there, But were only occasionally there were alowed to vote there: which s^d asertion we utterly Deny.

3^{dly} Whereas they s^t forth that a great number of y^e Inhabitants there objected against such proceedings but to no purpose: Whereas there was not any that made any Legal or methodical objection against s^d meeting in any Respect, nor protested against the same in writing, that we might then have known what there objection was and Redrest their grivinces if in our power: which we humbly conceive they ought to have done.

4^{thly} As to the separat meetings there held as mentioned in s^d Petition, We understood it onely that a number being Disaffected that they could not carry there point in Voting, caviled at y^e proceedings to embarras y^e busnise of s^d parrish & in a heddy mabash way without any warrant held a sepperate meeting when they plainly see that a majority of y^e Qualified voters of s^d Parrish was against them. and after a number of y^e s^d officers was chose declared and sworn they presumtously chose and Swore another set of officers as we humbly conceive with a design to render y^e Busnessee of y^e Day abortive by petiting to have both meetings Destroyed as illegal, knowing there own to be so.

5th Whereas y^e s^d petitioners set forth that they was doubtful on both sides as to their authority and that nether parties has acted in there offices, and the whole Business of y^e perrish in consequence thereof hath been neglected to this time to the great Injury to y^e minister and all other who have any concern with s^d perrish as well as the Inhabitants: To which your Respondents in fact say that indeed and in truth they Never knew that any was doubtful of there authority as to y^e officers on the Respondents side except y^e petitioners, and they onely on there own side, that that representation is so far from being truth, that the Business of s^d perrish hath been carred on as usual, and that there hath since s^d annual meeting been sundry meetings of the s^d perrish called by y^e officers of y^e opposite side from y^e petition^{rs} and that there hath been Comitees chose for y^e s^d perrish in Business since then, of which some of the petition^{rs} hath been appointed and officiated therein, and that a Comitee was at a meeting since s^d anual meeting chose to settle acc^{ts} with our minister, of which one of s^d petitioners was one and served in that trust and the s^d minister is paid his dues in full by s^d parrish, and that y^e Selectmen have since asessed y^e Inhabatants of s^d parrish and that a considerable part of s^d assesment is paid:

That y^e petitioners ten of them Belongs to Salem and that some of s^d petitioners are minors.

And that in the Number of the whole of the oposites there is not above eleven qualified Voters as we conceive of y^e Law in that Respect: of all which your Respondents are redy to aver: Wherefore your Respondents humbly pray; That your Excelency and honners would in your clemency and goodness take y^e premises into your wise consideration and grant that y^e s^d petition be no further sustained, and that y^e s^d parrish be no longer disturbed and Distresed by such unnesary & unreason-able Disputs, and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray, &c.

SAM^l CAMPBELL
GEORGE DAVIDSON
HUGH BROWN.

February y^e 12th, 1753.

In Council, Feb^r 14th 1753.

The annexed petition read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{bl} House of Representatives.

Theodore Atkinson, Sec.

Deposition of Robert Hopkins.

Robert Hopkins of Windham in the Province of New Hampshire, of lawful age, testifies and says, That the same day of the Annual meeting for 1752, of Windham in the Province of New-Hampshire, after s^d meeting, David Archibald shewed me a Bond which David Gregg & two

moor inhabitants on the West side of the Pond, had signed as Principle, with a large penal sum, that if he the s^d Archibald would vote for them & pay Province & Town Taxes with them, that they would pay for him or keep him clear from Minister Taxes for twenty years to come.

Robert Hopkins.

[Sworn to before Matthew Thornton, Justice of the Peace, February 20th 1753. Ed.]

Deposition of Samuel Barr.

Samuel Barr of Londonderry in the Province of New Hampshire of lawful age, testifies & says

That on or about the ninth of March A. D. 1752, he with many others, being at the annual meeting of Windham in the Province of New Hampshire & a dispute arising betwixt the Inhabitants and the Selectmen for the year 1752, the said Selectmen & clerk Refused the votes of Samuel Armer, Gaan Armer, John Dinsmoor, Francis Dinsmoor, Robert Spear, John Bolton, Andrew Armer, John Dinsmoor, jun. Michal Ferguson, James Twadwell, they being Inhabitants of the Town of Windham, incorporated by the three branches of the Legislature: The Selectmen & clerk afores^d excepted as voters, David Archibald, Samuel Archibald, James More, David More, they being inhabitants of the second Parish of Londonderry to which they pay Rates, & was exempted when s^d Windham was Incorporated: Also excepted as Voters Samuel McMaster, Charles Mellin, Joseph More, James Alexander, the last eight the Inhabitants of the easterly side of the Pond then urged were not legal Voters: David Archibald above s^d after the meeting told me that some men of the westerly side of the Pond gave him bond that if he was Rated in Windham they would pay his Rates; also that he was ashamed of what he had, dun & ware it to do again he would not do it for his oxen.

Samuel Barr.

[Sworn to before Matthew Thornton, Just of the Peace, Feb^y 20th 1753. Ed.]

Petition relating to a Meeting-house.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in & over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province, in General Assembly Conven'd, Feb^y 20th 1754.

The Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of the Westerly Part of the Parish of Windham in said Province humbly *shews*: That the Parish of Windham aforesaid was made by an Act of Assembly in or about the year 1742, by certain Boundaries set forth in the Act—a Part of which was after the Incorporation of the Township of Salem set off & made a part of that Township.

That before that was done, or the Line fixt between Salem & said Parish, the Inhabitants of said Windham not agreeing where they had best place their meeting house, they finally

agreed to chuse a Committee of indifferent Persons to Determine that matter:—which they did accordingly & the Committee Resolved upon a proper place after having view'd the Parish, & Declared the same.

That the said Committee determined the matter before the said Line between Salem & Windham was fixt as it now stands, as above mentioned, and tho' it might have been well with Respect to the whole of what was Windham by the said Act, yet by the taking off & annexing to Salem those Polls & Estates by the Last Line, that place which was near the center of the Parish before, was very ex-centric afterwards.

That after all this a number of said Parish in a private way erected a meeting house at the place agreed upon [by] the said Committee without regard to the Line last stated, and have lately obtain'd a vote (after it had been rejected at one meeting) that the Parish shou'd take or receive the said house & pay the charge of building the same.

That the said meeting-house is by no means conveniently situated as it now stands for the majority of the Parishioners considering the present extent of the Parish, but especially if it be considered that the greatest part of the future settlements in the Parish must be at the remotest part of the same from said house, and as it is likely there will be much contention in said Parish (already almost ruined by Divisions and Debates) about the place where said house had best be finally fix'd for it can't be that the majority shou'd long agree it shall stand where it is at present. Your Petitioners humbly pray that this matter may be put out of the power of said Parishioners to contend about, and for that purpose that a committee of disinterested impartial persons may be appointed by the General Assembly to view said Parish & consider it in all circumstances as it now stands with respect to boundaries, as also with respect to the situation of the present Inhabitants & the Prospect of future settlements & additional inhabitants, and to determine upon the whole matter where it is proper the said meeting-House shou'd be placed and to make Report thereof as soon as may be: And the said House or another (if the Parish shall chuse rather to build a new one than Remove this which may be easily done) may be placed accordingly, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

David Gregg
John Kyll
Wm. Gregg
Hugh Grayham
Tho^s Campbell
John Davidson
Arthur Grayham
George Davidson
John McCoy

Wm. Waugh
John Waddel
John Karr
Joseph Corning
John Graz
Hugh Clyde
John Kyl
John Clyde
Hugh Montgomery

Joseph Wagh
 Hugh Bell
 Joseph Clyde
 Samuel Clyde
 James Alexander
 David Gregg
 James Dunlap
 Hugh Brown
 Peter Patison
 Nathl Hemphill

Robt Hemphill
 John Wilson
 Alexander Dunlap
 Henry Cambel
 Thomas Richardson
 Samuel Campel
 James Betton
 Henry Campbell, jun.
 Samuel M Master

[NOTE. On the above petition a hearing was granted: When, April 11th 1754, "Voted in the House that this Petition be dismissed." Ed.]

Petition of Oliver Saunders.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Esq^r Governor & Commander in chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire, the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened, Jan^y 25th 1757.

The humble Petition of Oliver Saunders of Salem in said Province, yeoman, *shows*: That your petitioner on the 13th day of October 1756, exhibited a Petition to your Excellency & Honours relating to the Rates supposed to be wrongfully assess'd on sundry of the Inhabitants of said Salem in the manner set forth in said Petition, signed by himself & others aggrieved, on which a time was appointed for hearing of the Petitioners on their Petition, which they mistook and so lost the opportunity whereby the merit of their case has not been considered: Wherefore your Petitioner most Humbly prays That the said Petition may be revived that the Petitioners may be heard thereon and such measures pursued relative thereto as in your great Wisdom & Goodness you shall judge to be Right and your Petitioners in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

OLIVER SANDERS.

NOTE.—On the foregoing petition a hearing was granted, "on the second day of the sitting of the Genl Assembly next after the 1st day of February," when, In the House of Representatives

Voted, That the prayer of this petition be granted & that the petitioners be exempted from paying any arrears of Province Tax to Salem before the year 1753, it appearing they had paid their province taxes to Windham from the year 1743 to 1752 (1).

(1) See Salem Town Papers. Ed.

Deposition of John Dinsmoor.

The Deposition of John Dinsmoor of Lawful Age, doth testifie & say that the persons hereafter named, were and are Inhabitants dwelling within the bounds of Londonderry According as Mr. Bryant run the Lines, viz:

John Ober, jun.
Robert Spear
Timothy Sanders
Samuel Armour
Andrew Balch
John Dinsmoor
Oliver Kimbal
Israel Ober
Ebenezer Woodbury
George Corning
John Corning
John Hall
John Hall 3^d
Rob^t Ellenwood
Abial Pitman
John Giles

John Ober
William Sanders
John Ashby
Oliver Sanders
William Leach
Nath^l Woodbury
Israel Woodbury
Joshua Thorndike
Moses Morgan
Edward Bayley
Jonathan Woodbury
Wid. Judith Corning
Samuel Crowel
Hugh Campbell
James Twaddell
Jonathan Morgan

Attest,

John Dinsmoor.

[Sworn to before Daniel Peaslee, Just. Peace, Jan^y 20th, 1757. Ed.]

[Similar Depositions were made by Samuel Moran, Daniel Dow, Alexander Park and Francis Smiley and Sworn to before Daniel Peaslee, Just. Peace, Jan^y 19th, Jan^y 20th, Jan^y 31st, 1757. Ed.]

A List of those men that now live in Salem which formerly lived in the Parish of Windham and paid their Province Tax to s^d Windham: viz.

Samuel Armor
Robert Spear
John Dinsmoor
Francis Dinsmoor
Wm. Sanders
John Ashby
Eb^r Woodbury
George Corning
Oliver Sanders
John Ober
Israel Ober
John Corning
Robert Elinwood
John Woodbury

John Hall
Oliver Kimbel
Edward Baley
John Giles
Wm. Leach
John Hill
Nath^l Woodbury
Abiall Pitman
John Ober, jun
Moses Morgan
Jon^s Morgan
Joshua Thorndike
Andrew Balch

A true Copy given under my hand at y^e Parish of Windham, Jan^y 19th 1757.

by me,

Francis X Smiley.
mark.

WOLFEBOROUGH.

[Was incorporated in 1770.]

Petition for Incorporation.

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 Capt. General, Governor and Commander
 in Chief in and over the Province afore-
 said, and the Honorable his Majesty's
 Council for said Province :

The Humble Petition of Ammi Ruhamah Cutter, Physician and John Parker, Merch^t both of Portsmouth in said Province as a Committee of the Proprietors of *Wolfeborough* in said Province *shews* :—

That there are in the Township of Wolfeborough upwards of Thirty Families settled and more coming to settle there, which makes an Incorporation necessary in order to transact their common affairs with ease & dispatch, and in that case many wou'd be induced to settle there, who would be backward without that advantage.

That the Proprietors aforesaid are desirous of obtaining this Privilege as it will enable them to carry on the settlement with more Regularity and enable them to carry into Execution any of their Resolutions in which all are concerned, with Justice as well as with dispatch. and have therefore chosen your Petitioners with another person now absent to apply to your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council for this purpose.

Wherefore they humbly Pray that the said Inhabitants & Proprietors may be Incorporated with the usual Franchises, Privileges & Emoluments: that they be authorized & Intitled to use the Powers with which other Corporations are Invested, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall pray &c.

A. R. CUTTER } Comm^{tes}.
 Jⁿ^o PARKER }

Portsmouth, July 9th 1770.

Minutes.

9th July 1770
 Wolfeboro' Petition for
 Incorporation,
 Granted.
 Accepted on my part. J^W.
 Charter to be prepar'd
 Annual Fair or Mart
 1st Tuesday following 21st Sept.

To call 1st Town meeting
 Mr. Jonathan Rindge.
 1st Meeting 21st Sept.
 Annual meeting
 last Tuesday in M^{ch}.

ADDENDA.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

Readers of the foregoing Papers relating to Towns, will have noticed that no mention is made of a very considerable number of Towns in the State, some of which hold an important place in our history. In relation to some of the towns thus omitted, the reason may be, that they never had occasion to make application to the Legislature by petition or otherwise; or that making such application, the Papers were not preserved or have not been found: Other towns are of modern date, i. e. subsequent to 1784, and therefore not properly included in this volume. The Editor, however, has carefully printed every paper which he has found on file or on record, relating to early towns. The following notices of towns omitted, are given as supplementary;—the facts stated being derived from such authorities and documents as were accessible to the Editor (1).

Towns not included among the foregoing Papers.

ALEXANDRIA, granted March 13, 1767; incorporated, Nov. 23, 1782; its first settlement was made in December 1769, by Jonathan, John M. and William Corliss.

ALLENSTOWN, so named from Gov. Samuel Allen, the purchaser of Mason's claim; the tract was reserved for Allen's children. (See Prov. Pap. Vol. 4, p. 42.) A settlement was begun by John Wolcott, Andrew Smith, Daniel Evans, Robert Buntin and others, about 1740.

ANDOVER was granted by the Masonian proprietors in 1746, to Edmund Brown and others, and was called New Breton in honor of the capture of Cape Breton, 1745. It was incorporated, with its present name, June 25, 1779.

ANTRIM derives its name from a county of that name in Ireland—the original settlers being mostly of the Scotch-Irish stock that settled Londonderry in 1719. The first settlement was made by Dea. James Aiken, about 1768; it was incorporated, March 22, 1777.

BARNSTEAD was granted May 20, 1727. Settlements commenced in 1767.

BATH. The original charter of Bath was granted Sept. 10, 1761, to Rev. Andrew Gardner and 61 others. It was re-chartered to John Sawyer and others, in March 1769, on the ground of the forfeiture of the first charter; settlement was made in 1765, by John Harriman, from Haverhill, Ms.

BRADFORD was granted to John Pierce and George Jaffrey, in —? Settlement was made in 1771, by Dea. William Presbury or Presby. Incorporated Sept. 27, 1787.

BRIDGEWATER formerly comprised the whole of New Chester (now Hill), Bridgewater and Bristol; the first settlement was made in 1766, by Thomas Crawford, Esq. BRISTOL was taken from Bridgewater and

(1) Much reliance has been placed on statements found in the N. H. Gazetteer, by Farmer & Moore, 1823. ED.

New Chester; first settlement, about 1770, by Col. Peter Sleeper, Benj. Emmons and others.

BROOKLINE was formerly a part of old Dunstable. It was incorporated March 30, 1769, by the name of RABY. The name was altered in November, 1798.

BENTON was granted Nov. 6, 1766, to Clement March, Joseph Senter and others.

CAMPTON was granted in Oct. 1761, to Capt. Jabez Spencer of East Haddam, Ct.; first settlement made in 1765, by two families of the name of Fox and Taylor; it derives its name from a *camp* built by the first surveyors of the town.

CANAAN was granted by charter, July 9, 1761, to 62 persons, mostly from Connecticut, and took its name from Canaan in that State. The settlement was begun in the winter of 1766-7, by John Scofield, who, it is said, drew his effects from Connecticut river by hand-sled, 14 miles, over a crust of snow.

CANDIA was originally a part of the township of Chester, incorporated Dec. 17, 1763; said to have been named by Gov. Benning Wentworth, who was once a prisoner on the island of Candia (the ancient Crete). A settlement was begun as early as 1748, by William Turner; and in 1753, by John Sargent and a few others.

CENTRE-HARBOUR, or rather *Senter Harbour*, so named for Col. Joseph Senter, a prominent man, who settled there in 1767.

CHATHAM was originally granted to Col. Peter Livius and others, Feb. 7, 1767.

CLAREMONT was granted October 26, 1764, to Josiah Willard, Samuel Ashley and 68 others; it received its name from the country seat of Lord Clive, an English general; a settlement was begun in 1762, by Moses Spofford and David Lynde; in 1767, new settlers came in from Connecticut. The early settlers were about equally divided as Episcopalians and Congregationalists.

COLEBROOK was originally granted to Sir George Colebrook—and hence the name; incorporated 1790.

COVENTRY was granted January 31, 1764, but not settled till after the commencement of the Revolutionary war.

DANBURY was first settled in Nov. 1771, but not incorporated till June 18, 1795.

EAST KINGSTON was incorporated Nov. 17, 1738. Among the early settlers were William and Abraham Smith, who settled near the center of the town.

EFFINGHAM, formerly *Leavitts-town*, was settled a few years before the Revolution.

ELLSWORTH, formerly called *Trecothick*, was granted May 1, 1769.

ENFIELD, formerly called *Relhan*, was incorporated by charter, granted to Jedediah Dana and others, July 4, 1761.

ERROL, granted Feb. 28, 1774.

FITZWILLIAM, formerly Monadnock, No. 4, incorporated May 19, 1773, and took its present name from the Earl of Fitzwilliam, Eng.

GILFORD was formerly a part of Gilmanton; it was settled in June, 1778, by James Ames and S. S. Gilman, but not incorporated until June 16, 1812.

GRAFTON was granted Aug. 4, 1761, to Ephraim Sherman and others; first settlement was made in May, 1772, by Capt. Joseph Hoyt, from

Poplin. Capt. Alexander Pixley and wife were the second family which settled there.

GREENFIELD was first settled in 1771, by Capt. Alexander Parker, Major A. Whittemore, Simeon Fletcher and others; and was incorporated June 15, 1791.

HANCOCK, so named in honor of Hon. John Hancock, of Boston, who was one of the original proprietors, was incorporated Nov. 5, 1779. A settlement was begun there by John Grimes in May, 1764.

HAVERHILL was known in early times by the name of the *Lower Cohos*. It was granted by charter May 18, 1764, to John Hazen and 94 others; Mr. Hazen began the settlement the same year on what is called Little Ox Bow. The first court was held there Oct. 21, 1773; Rev. Peter Powers, from Hollis, was settled as the first minister in 1765.

HAWKE, now Danville, derived its name from Admiral Hawke of the British navy; was incorporated Feb. 22, 1769; but settlements were made by Jacob Hook, Jonathan Sanborn and others, as early as 1735-1739.

HENNIKER was first granted by the Masonian Proprietors under the name of *Number 6*, to James and Robert Wallace and others from Londonderry; settlement commenced in 1761; incorporated Nov. 10, 1768, and called Henniker, by Gov. John Wentworth, in honor of his friend, John Henniker, a merchant in London and member of the British parliament. This town was formerly classed with Hillsborough.

KEENE, whose original name was *Upper Ashuelot*, was incorporated April 11, 1753, by its present name, in honor of Sir Benjamin Keene, British minister in Spain, and contemporary with Gov. Benning Wentworth, who in early life visited that country. Settlements were begun as early as 1736; being a frontier town, it was repeatedly attacked by Indians.

LANGDON, so named in honor of Gov. John Langdon of New Hampshire, was first settled by Seth Walker in 1773; by Nathaniel Rice and Jonathan Willard in 1774; but it was not incorporated until Jan. 11, 1787.

LEBANON was granted July 4, 1761, to sixty-two proprietors from Norwich, Mansfield and Lebanon, Ct.—friends and some of them parishioners of Dr. Eleazer Wheelock; this was the first town settled on Connecticut river north of Charlestown, No. 4. A Congregational church was formed in 1771, and Rev. Isaiah Potter installed in 1772.

LEE was originally a part of Durham, and was incorporated Jan. 16, 1766.

LINCOLN was granted Jan. 31, 1764, to James Avery and others, but not settled till after the Revolution.

LOUDON was formerly a part of Canterbury; was incorporated Jan. 23, 1773; but settlements had been made in 1760, by Abraham and Jethro Bachelder and Moses Ordway. It derived its name from the Earl of Loudon, Eng.

LYMAN was granted to Daniel Lyman and others, Nov. 10, 1761.

MANCHESTER, formerly known as *Derry-field* (which was incorporated Sept. 3, 1751,) was formed from a part of Londonderry and a part of Chester. It was famous in early times for a fishing place at the Amoskeag Falls; was incorporated by its present name in 1810, and is now distinguished as the most populous and opulent city in New Hampshire.

MARLBOROUGH, formerly Monadnock, No. 5, was granted by charter April 29, 1751, to Timothy Dwight, Esq., of Northampton, Ms., and 60 others; the charter was renewed Sept. 21, 1764. Settlement was begun about 1760 by a Mr. McAlister, William Barker, Abel Woodward, Benja^r Tucker and Daniel Goodenough; and the town was incorporated Dec. 13, 1776.

MASON, formerly known as *Number 1*, and settled as early as 1751, was granted by charter Aug. 26, 1763.

MEREDITH was first called *New Salem*, and was incorporated Dec. 30, 1763.

MIDDLETON was incorporated March 4, 1778; the first settlers were from Lee and Rochester, N. H.

MILFORD was formerly known as the *South West Parish* of Amherst. It was not incorporated with its present name till Jan. 11, 1794.

MONT VERNON was originally a part of Amherst; its settlement commenced early, but it was not incorporated as a distinct town till Dec. 15, 1803.

MOULTONBOROUGH was granted by the Masonian proprietors, Nov. 17, 1763, to Col. Jonathan Moulton and 61 others, principally from Hampton; settlements commenced the next year.

NELSON was formerly known as *Monadnock, No. 6*; it was granted by the Masonian proprietors, and chartered Feb. 22, 1774, by the name of *Packersfield*, from Thomas Packer, who owned about one half of it. It took the name of Nelson in June, 1814.

NEW CHESTER (now HILL, in honor of Gov. Isaac Hill,) was granted Sept. 14, 1753, to 87 proprietors; the first settlement was in 1768, and incorporated Nov. 20, 1778.

NEW HAMPTON was incorporated Nov. 27, 1777, and called *New Hampton* at the desire of Col. Jonathan Moulton, an original proprietor from Hampton. There is a tradition that Col. Moulton, in 1763, having an ox weighing 1400 pounds, fattened for the purpose, hoisted a flag upon his horns and drove him to Portsmouth as a present to Gov. Benning Wentworth, asking only of the Governor as a favor, to have a grant of a Gore of land lying near the town of Moultonborough—which, the record shows, was granted.

NEWINGTON is one of the old historic places or parishes of the State. It was embraced in what is called the *Squamscut* or *Hilton's point Patent*; and in it was the *Bloody Point*. A part of Newington was claimed to lye in Dover and a part in Portsmouth. The name Newington was given by Gov. Dudley May 12, 1714; its bounds were settled July 23, 1714, at which time it was called a Parish. It had town privileges as early as 1737; but when incorporated, is not definitely ascertained. The late John Farmer, Esq., said it was in July, 1764. [See Prov. Pap. Vol. 3, pp. 562, 574, 586, 587, Vol. 4, pp. 824-836.]

NEW LONDON, first called *Dautsick*, was incorporated June 25, 1779; a settlement, however, was begun by Nathaniel Merrill and James Lamb, Eliphalet Lyon and Ebenezer Hunting, probably as early as 1775.

NORTH HAMPTON was formerly a parish in Hampton, known as *North Hill*. Settlements were early begun, and it was incorporated as a distinct township, Nov. 26, 1742.

NORTHUMBERLAND was first settled about 1767, by Thomas Burnside and Daniel Spaulding; it was incorporated Nov. 16, 1779.

NORTHWOOD, originally a part of Nottingham, was settled March 25,

1763, by Moses Godfrey, John Bachelder, Increase Bachelder, from North Hampton; and Solomon Bickford from Durham, in December, the same year.

ORANGE was granted by the name of *Cardigan*, Feb. 6, 1769, to Isaac Fellows and others. Its settlement commenced in 1773-4, by Silas Harris, Benjamin Shaw, David Eames, Col. Elisha Bayne and Capt. Joseph Kenney.

PLAINFIELD was granted August 14, 1761, and was settled in 1764, by L. Nash and J. Russell. The name is derived from a town in Connecticut where the proprietors held their first meeting.

POPLIN, now called Fremont, was incorporated June 22, 1764.

RAYMOND was originally a part of Chester, called *Charming-fair*. It was made a distinct parish in 1762, and incorporated as a town, May 9, 1765.

RICHMOND was granted to Joseph Blanchard and others, Feb. 28, 1752, and settled within five or six years afterwards by people from Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

SANDOWN was originally a part of Kingston, and was incorporated April 6, 1756.

SANDWICH was originally granted by Gov. Benning Wentworth, Oct. 25, 1763, six miles square. On the 5th Sept. 1764, an additional grant was made to the territory on the east and south, called Sandwich Addition.

SEABROOK was formerly a part of Hampton Falls. Settlements commenced here in 1638, by Christopher Hussey, Joseph Dow and Thomas Philbrick. It was granted June 3, 1768, to Jonathan Wear, John Moulton and others. A Presbyterian society was formed here in 1764.

SPRINGFIELD was granted Jan. 3, 1769, by the name of *Protectworth*, to John Fisher, Daniel Warner and 53 others. Its first settlement was made in 1772, by Israel Clifford and son, Nathaniel Clark, Samuel Stevens and others. It was not incorporated by its present name till Jan. 24, 1794.

STODDARD was formerly called *Limerick*; a settlement begun in June, 1769, by John Taggard, Reuben Walton, Richard Richardson, Amos Butterfield, Joseph Dodge and Oliver Parker. It was incorporated Nov. 4, 1774, by the name of Stoddard, in honor of Col. Samson Stoddard of Chelmsford, Ms., an original grantee.

STRATFORD was incorporated Nov. 16, 1779.

SURRY was originally a part of Gilsum and Westmoreland; was incorporated March 9, 1769, deriving its name from Surry in England; a settlement was begun by Peter Hayward in 1764.

SUTTON was granted in 1749, by the Masonian proprietors, and first called *Perrys-town*, from Obadiah Perry, an original and principal proprietor; a settlement was commenced in 1767, by David Peaslee.

TAMWORTH was granted Oct. 14, 1766, to John Webster, Jonathan Moulton and others, and was settled in 1771, by Richard Jackman, Jonathan Choate, David Philbrick and William Eastman.

TEMPLE is the easterly part of what was called *Peterborough Slip*—incorporated Aug. 26, 1768.

THORNTON is understood to derive its name from Hon. Matthew Thornton; it was granted July 6, 1763, to Matthew, James and Andrew Thornton and others; settlement made in 1770, by Benjamin Hoyt; and it was incorporated Nov. 8, 1781.

TUFTONBOROUGH was granted to J. Tufton Mason, from whom the name; was settled about 1780, but not incorporated till Dec. 17, 1795.

UNITY was granted by charter July 13, 1764, to Theodore Atkinson, Meshech Weare, and 45 others—called *Unity* from the termination of a long dispute between claimants in Kingston and Hampstead. Settlement was begun in 1769, by John Ladd and Moses Thurston.

WALPOLE was first known by the name of *Great Fall*; its first settlement was made in 1749 by Col. Benjamin Bellows; it was granted to Col. Bellows and 61 others, Feb. 16, 1752. For some time it was a border town exposed to the attacks of Indians, but was bravely defended.

WARREN was granted by charter July 14, 1763.

WASHINGTON was first known as *Monadnock, No. 8*; was granted by the Masonian proprietors to Reuben Kidder of New Ipswich, who began a settlement in 1768, and was called *Camden* till Dec. 13, 1776, when it took the name of Washington.

WENDELL, now *Sunapee*, was granted by the name of *Saville*, Nov. 7, 1768; settled by emigrants from Rhode Island in 1772, and incorporated April 4, 1781, deriving its name from John Wendell, a principal proprietor.

WHITEFIELD was granted July 4, 1744, to Josiah Moody and others, and soon after settled by Major Burns and others—the name, probably, for Rev. George Whitefield, who preached in New England about that time.

WILMOT. The greater part of Wilmot was originally included in a grant made by the Masonian proprietors in 1775 to Jonas Minot, Matthew Thoraton and others. It was not incorporated till June 18, 1807.

FINIS.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE,

1778-1783;

WITH THE

CONSTITUTION ESTABLISHED IN 1784.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

The Editor is happy to lay before the people of New Hampshire, in this closing volume of Provincial and State Papers,—which he has had the honor to compile, edit and publish, by authority of the Legislature,—a connected statement of the facts, with all the documents which he has been able to find, relating to the Conventions which were successively called, and which resulted in the adoption of a State Constitution, October 31st, 1783, that was carried into full effect, June 10th, 1784.

The *first* Constitution of New Hampshire was adopted soon after the Revolution began, January 5th, 1776; it was not designed or understood to be permanent, but “to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain.” A copy of this is printed in full in Volume VIII. of the Provincial and State Papers, pages 2-5, to which reference may be made. The Constitution then adopted is believed to be the *first* adopted by any Colony or State in the Union. It was to continue in force through the war; or until superseded by a new Constitution. In December 27, 1777, the House voted to recommend to towns and parishes in the State, to instruct their Representatives to call a Convention “for the sole purpose of forming and laying a permanent plan or system for the future Government of the State.” This vote does not appear to have been concurred by the Council; but February 20th, 1778, The House voted to resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole, to join the honorable Board, if they see fit, to consider “of the calling a full and free representation of all the people of this State for the sole purpose of forming a permanent Plan or system for the future government of this State:” and February 25th, 1778, the Assembly, in Committee of the whole, Hon. Meshech Weare in the Chair, agreed to report, “That a full and free representation of all the people of the State be called, for the purpose above expressed, to meet in Convention at Concord, on the second Wednesday (10th) in June;” that when the said Convention have formed such plan of Government, they lay the same before their constituents for their approbation: and that it should not go into effect until three quarters of the people of this State shall consent thereto. On the next day, 26th February, the abovesaid Report was adopted; and the Convention of delegates chosen by the respective towns and parishes, for the abovesaid purpose met in Concord, on the day appointed, June 10th, 1778 (1).

(1) For the facts here stated, see State Papers, Vol. VIII. pp. 757, 758, 774, 775. Ed.

It is much to be regretted, that the JOURNAL of that Convention cannot any where be found. Search was made in vain for it by the late John Farmer, Esq., and by Mr. G. Parker Lyon, as also by the Editor of this volume: Mr. Lyon was at the great pains, however, of collecting the names of the Delegates to that Convention from the Town Records, respectively, throughout the State. The following is the list of names as thus collected by him (1).

LIST OF DELEGATES

Chosen from the several towns, classed towns, and places in New Hampshire, in 1778, to meet at Concord, June 10th, for the purpose of forming a new Constitution.

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Delegates.</i>
Portsmouth,	{ John Langdon George King George Gaines Samuel Cutts William Whipple Nathaniel Folsom
Exeter,	{ Samuel Hubbard John Pickering Matthew Thornton
Londonderry,	{ John Bell
Chester,	Samuel Emerson
Kensington,	Ezekiel Worthen
Stratham,	{ Benjamin Barker Mark Wiggin
Brentwood,	Voted not to send
Kingston, &c.,	Samuel Philbrick, deceased, and Josiah Battlett was chosen.
North Hampton,	Levi Dearborn
New Market,	None sent
Epping,	{ Enoch Coffin Simon Dearborn
Hampton Falls, &c.,	Nath'l H. Dodge
Hampton,	None sent
Greenland,	William Weeks
Sandown and Hawke,	{ Jethro Sanborn, probably.
South Hampton and Newtown,	{ Robert Stewart
Nottingham,	Voted not to send
Rye,	Joseph Parsons
Newington,	Richard Dame
New-Castle,	Information not received
Hampstead,	None chosen
Raymond and Poplin,	{ John Dudley
Atkinson and Plaistow,	{ Joseph Welch
Deerfield and Northwood,	{ Simon Marston Richard Jenness
Candia,	John Sargent
Salem,	Moody Morse

(1) See N. H. Register, 1832, pp. 13-21. Ed.

Epsom, &c., &c.,	John McClary
Windham,	None sent
Peilham,	James Barnard
Canterbury and	} Archelaus More
Loudon,	
Pembroke,	} Samuel Daniell
Concord,	
Bow and	
Dunbarton,	} Richard Bartlett
Litchfield and	
Nottingham West,	} Timothy Walker
Merrimack and	
Bedford,	} Jeremiah Page
Derryfield and	
Goffstown,	} William Burns
Dunstable,	
Amherst,	} John Parker
Hollis,	
Hopkinton,	} Solomon Hutchinson
New Boston and	
Francetown,	} None sent
Weare,	
Wilton, Lynde-	} Benjamin French
boro', &c.,	
Mason and	} William Hunt
Roby,	
New Ipswich,	} Reuben Mussey
Temple and	
Peterborough,	} Moses Nichols
Henniker and	
Hillsborough,	} Enoch Noyes
Salisbury and	
Boscawen,	} Noah Worcester
New Bretton,	
Warner,	} Stephen Harriman
Perryston, and	
Fisherfield,	} Archibald McMillen
New Durham, &c., and	
Wolfborough,	} Samuel Caldwell
Durham,	
Lee,	} Moses Putnam
Madbury,	
Dover,	} David Blodgett
Somersworth,	
Rochester,	} Timothy Farrar
Barrington,	
Gilmanton and	} Francis Blood
Barnstead,	
Wakefield,	} Isaac Andrews
Middleton. and	
Leavittstown,	} George Jackman
Mereditth and	
Sanbornton,	} None sent
	} Voted not to send
	} Ebenezer Thompson
	} Information not received
	} James Davis, Jr.
	} John Gage
	} Caleb Hodgdon
	} Town Rec. burnt, 1813
	} Information not received
	} Information not received
	} Joseph Badger
	} None sent
	} Ebenezer Smith

Sandwich,	}	None sent
Tamworth, and		
Moultonborough,	}	Enoch Hale Phineas Spaulding
Rindge,		
Jaifrey, and	}	None sent
Peterborough Slip,		
Dublin,	}	None sent
Marlborough,		
Stoddard,	}	Jeremiah Stiles
Packersfield, &c.,		
Keene,	}	Calvin Frink
Swanzy and		
Fittzwilliam,	}	Information not received
Westmorland,		
Richmond,	}	Oliver Capron Daniel Ashley
Winchester,		
Walpole,	}	Benjamin Bellows
Hinsdale and		
Chesterfield,	}	None sent
Marlow,		
Surry, and	}	None sent
Alstead,		
Charlestown,	}	Samuel Hunt None sent
Claremont,		
Acworth,	}	Samuel Silsby Benjamin Giles
Lempster,		
Savill,	}	None sent
Croydon,		
Unity, and	}	None sent
Newport,		
Cornish,	}	None sent
Protectworth,		
Plainfield, and	}	Francis Worcester
Grantham,		
Plymouth,	}	Francis Worcester
Cockermouth,		
Alexandria, and	}	William Baker
New Chester,		
Rumney,	}	William Baker
Holderness,		
Campton, and	}	None sent
Thornton,		
Orford,	}	None sent
Haverhill,		
Lyman,	}	None sent
Gunthwait,		
Landaff,	}	None sent
Bath, and		
Morristown,	}	None sent
Lancaster,		
Northumberland,	}	None sent
Apthorp,		
Stratford,	}	None sent
Colburn,		
Cockburn,	}	None sent
Conway,		
Shelburne, &c.,	}	None sent

Hanover,	}	None sent
Canaan, and		
Cardigan,	}	None sent
Lebanon,		
Relham, and	}	Obadiah Clement of Warren, (probably)
Grafton,		
Wentworth,	}	
Dorchester,		
Lyme,	}	
Warren, and		
Piermont,	}	

NOTE. The next meeting of this Constitutional Convention was at Concord, June 5th, 1779:—at which time, a Constitution was agreed upon and sent out to the people for their adoption. The copy of the Constitution, from which this is transcribed, is printed on both sides of a half-sheet of large size, and issued from the Press of Zechariah Fowle, in Exeter, 1779. It is the only copy of the original print which the Editor has found, and is as follows (1):

[THE CONSTITUTION PROPOSED IN 1779.]

A DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, AND PLAN OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

WHEREAS, by the tyrannical administration of the government of the King and Parliament of Great Britain, this State of New Hampshire, with the other United States of America, have been necessitated to reject the British government, and declare themselves *Independent States*—all which is more largely set forth by the Continental Congress, in their resolution or Declaration of the fourth of July, A. D. 1776:

And whereas, it is recommended by the said Continental Congress to each and every of the said United States to establish a form of government most conducive to the welfare thereof: We the delegates of the said State of New Hampshire, chosen for the purpose of forming a permanent plan of government subject to the revisal of our constituents, have composed the following *Declaration of Rights and Plan of Government*; and recommend the same to our constituents for their approbation.

A Declaration of the Rights of the People of the State of New Hampshire.

1st. WE declare, that we the people of the State of New

(1) See a copy also in Coll. of N. H. Hist. Soc. Vol. 4, pp. 153-161. ED.

Hampshire, are free and independent of the Crown of Great Britain.

2d. We the people of this State, are entitled to life, liberty and property; and all other immunities and privileges which we heretofore enjoyed.

3d. The common and statute laws of England, adopted and used here; and the laws of the State (not inconsistent with said Declaration of Independence) now are, and shall be in force here, for the welfare and good government of the State, unless the same shall be repealed or altered by the future legislature thereof.

4th. The whole and entire power of government of this State, is vested in, and must be derived from the people thereof, and from no other source whatsoever.

5th. The future legislature of this State, shall make no laws to infringe the rights of conscience, or any other of the natural, unalienable Rights of Men, or contrary to the laws of GOD, or against the Protestant religion.

6th. The extent of territory of this State, is, and shall be the same which was under the government of the late Gov. John Wentworth, Esq. Governor of New Hampshire. Reserving, nevertheless, our claim to the New Hampshire Grants, so called, situated to the west of Connecticut river.

7th. The right of trial by jury in all cases as heretofore used in this State, shall be preserved inviolate forever.

A PLAN OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

1st. The State of New Hampshire shall be governed by a Council, and House of Representatives, to be chosen as herein after mentioned, and to be styled the *General Court* of the State of New Hampshire.

2d. The Council shall consist for the present of twelve members, to be elected out of the several counties in the State, in proportion to their respective number of inhabitants.

3d. The numbers belonging to each county for the present, according to said proportion being as followeth, viz.—To the county of Rockingham, five—to the county of Strafford, two—to the county of Hillsborough, two—to the county of Cheshire, two—to the county of Grafton, one.

4th. The number for the county of Rockingham, shall not be increased or diminished hereafter, but remain the same, and the numbers for the other counties shall be increased or diminished as their aforesaid proportion to the county of Rockingham may chance to vary.

5th. The House of Representatives shall be chosen as follows. Every town or parish, choosing town officers, amounting to one hundred families and upwards, shall send one representative for each hundred families they consist of, (or such lesser number as they please) or class themselves with some other towns or parishes that will join in sending a representative.

6th. All other towns and parishes under the number of one hundred families, shall have liberty to class themselves together to make the number of one hundred families or upwards, and being so classed, each class shall send one representative.

7th. The number of Counsellors belonging to each county shall be ascertained and done by the General Court every time there is a new proportion made of the State tax, which shall be once in seven years at the least, and oftener if need be.

8th. All male inhabitants of the State of lawful age, paying taxes, and professing the protestant religion, shall be deemed legal voters in choosing counsellors and representatives, and having an estate of three hundred pounds, equal to silver at six shillings and eight pence per ounce, one half at least whereof to be real estate, and lying within this State, with the qualifications aforesaid, shall be capable of being elected.

9th. The selectmen of each respective town and parish, choosing town officers containing one hundred families or upwards, and also of each respective class of towns classed together as aforesaid, shall notify the legal voters of their respective towns, parishes, or classes, qualified as aforesaid, in the usual way of notifying town meetings, giving fifteen days notice at least, to meet at some convenient place on the last Wednesday of November annually, to choose counsellors and representatives.

10th. And the voters being met, and the moderator chosen, shall proceed to choose their representative or representatives, required by this constitution by a majority of the voters present, who shall be notified accordingly, and a return thereof made into the Secretary's office, by the first Wednesday of January then next.

11th. And such representatives shall be paid their wages by their constituents, and for their travel by the State.

12th. And in the choice of counsellors, each voter shall deliver his vote to the moderator for the number of counsellors respectively required, with the word counsellors written thereon, and the voters name endorsed to prevent duplicity.

13th. These votes shall be sealed up by the moderator, and transmitted by the constable to one of the justices of the Infe-

rior Court of Common Pleas for the county, before the second Wednesday in December next following.

14th. And the said justices of the Inferior Court shall meet together on the said second Wednesday of December annually, to count the votes, and the persons that have most votes to the number of counsellors required, shall be declared duly elected, and shall be notified by the said justices accordingly. and a return thereof shall be made by them into the secretary's office by the first Wednesday in January annually.

15th. And in case any two persons shall have a like number of votes, the said justices may determine the choice in favor of which they please.

16th. The Council and House of Representatives so chosen and returned as aforesaid, shall meet on the first Wednesday in January next after their being chosen, at such place as the present, or future General Court may from time to time appoint: and being duly sworn, shall hold their respective places until the first Wednesday in January then next.

17th. The council shall choose their president, vice-president, and Secretary; and the house of representatives shall choose their speaker and clerk.

18th. The council and house of representatives respectively, shall determine all disputed elections of their own members, regulate their own proceedings; and on any vacancy, order a new election to fill up such vacancy.

19th. The said General Court elected and constituted as aforesaid, shall be invested with the supreme power of the State. And all acts, resolves, or votes, except grants of money, lands, or other things may originate in either house; but such grants shall originate in the house of representatives only.

20th. The said council and house of representatives respectively, shall have power to adjourn themselves from day to day, but not longer than two days at any one time, without concurrence of the other.

21st. The President of the council shall hold public correspondence with other States, or persons; call the council together when occasion shall require; and with advice of three or more of the council shall from time to time call the General Court together if need be, before the time they were adjourned to; and also point out the principal business of their session.

22d. The military and naval power of the State shall be regulated, and all proper officers thereof appointed, as the legislature by law shall direct from time to time.

23d. The judges of the superior and inferior courts, judges

of probate, judges of admiralty, judge of the maritime court, justices of the peace, sheriffs, coroners, attorney general, treasurer of the state, and delegates to the Continental Congress, shall be appointed by the said General Court, and commissioned by the president of the council.

24th. The appointment of registers of deeds, county treasurers, clerks of courts, registers of probate, and all other civil officers whatsoever, not before mentioned, shall be regulated by the laws that now are, or that hereafter may be enacted.

25th. All civil officers of the State, shall be suitably compensated by fees or salaries for their services.

26th. No member of the General Court shall be judge of the superior court, or inferior court, judge or register of probate, or sheriff of any county, or treasurer of the State or attorney general, or delegate at the Continental Congress.

27th. And no member of the council, judge of the superior court, or sheriff, shall hold a commission in the militia, army, or navy of this State.

28th. No member of the house of representatives shall hold any salary under the government.

29th. The president of the council, with advise of council, may grant reprieves not longer than six months, but the General Court only shall have power to pardon offenses against the State.

30th. A quorum of the council, and a quorum of the house of representatives, shall consist of a majority of each house.

31st. This Declaration of Rights and Plan of Government, shall have the force of law, and be esteemed the fundamental law of this State.

32d. The General Court shall have no power to alter any part of this Constitution; but in case they should concur in any proposed alteration, amendment, or addition, the same being agreed to by a majority of the people, shall become valid.

State of New Hampshire. In Convention, June, 5th, 1779.

Voted, that the foregoing Bill of Rights, and Plan of Government, be printed, and dispersed throughout this State, for the people thereof, to give their opinion thereon.

Voted, that Colonel Thornton and Colonel Bartlett, be a committee to get this plan of government printed, and transmit two or more copies of the same to each and every town, parish and place in this State, to which precepts for this convention were sent, and publish the same in the New Hampshire newspapers.

Voted, That the selectmen of the several towns, parishes, and districts in this State, upon the receipt of the same, are desired to notify and warn the legal inhabitants paying taxes in such town, parish, or place, to meet at some suitable place therein, giving them at least fifteen days notice, for the purpose of taking said plan under consideration; and make return of the number of voters present at such meeting, and how many voted for receiving said plan, and how many for rejecting the same, unto this convention at Concord, in this State, on the third Tuesday in September next.

By order of the Convention,

JOHN LANGDON, President, P. T.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

The foregoing Constitution, which, according to order, was sent out to the people, was rejected: The state of the votes upon it, the Editor has not been able to find.

THE SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

NOTE.

On the 28th of March, 1781, the House of Representatives voted to call another Convention to "settle a Form of Government," and that a Committee be appointed, to join a Committee of the Board, to form and issue a suitable Precept to the towns, for that purpose; which vote was concurred by the Board; and on the 6th of April, 1781, a joint Resolve was adopted that the said Convention should meet at Concord, the first Tuesday of June, next (1).

The Journal of that Convention has not been found; but fortunately the late Mr. G. Parker Lyon obtained a list of Delegates, which is presumed to be correct: (see N. H. Reg. 1852, pp. 22-25). The names of the Delegates chosen are as follows:

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Delegates.</i>
Portsmouth,	George Atkinson
"	John Langdon
"	Ammi Ruhami Cutter
"	John Pickering
"	Jona. Mitchell Sewall
Exeter,	Nathaniel Folsom
"	John Taylor Gilman
Londonderry,	Archibald McMurphy
Chester,	None sent
Hampton Falls,	Nathaniel H. Dodge
Brentwood,	Voted not to send
Stratham,	Mark Wiggin

(1) See State Pap. Vol. VIII. pp. 891-897. Ed.

North Hampton,	Abraham Drake
Kensington,	Voted not to send
Hampton,	None sent
New Market,	None sent
Epping,	Voted not to send
So. Hampton,	Voted not to send
Kingston,	None sent
E. Kingston,	None sent
Greenland,	Voted not to send
Nottingham,	Joseph Cilley
Hawke, and	} Robert Collins
Sandown,	
Newington,	Ephraim Pickering
Rye,	Joseph Parsons, or
	Nathan Goss
Atkinson, &	} Nathaniel Peabody
Plaistow,	
Hampstead,	Voted not to send
Raymond, &	} John Dudley
Poplin,	
New Castle,	} Voted not to send
Deerfield,	
Northwood,	None sent
Salem,	Voted not to send
Candia,	} John McClary
Epsom &	
Chichester,	Jacob Butler, jr.
Pelham,	None sent
Wiedham,	Joshua Kimball
Pembroke,	Timothy Walker
Concord,	} Jeremiah Clough
Canterbury &	
Loudon,	Voted not to send
Bow, &	} John Sullivan (chos. 1782)
Dunbarton,	
Durham,	James Davis
Lee &	Otis Baker
Madbury,	Joshua Wingate
Dover,	}
Somersworth,	
Rochester,	None sent
Barrington,	Joseph Badger, Sen.
Wakefield,	} Ebenezer Smith
Gilmanton,	
Meredith &	Voted not to send
Sanbornton,	James Brewer
Wolfboro',	None sent
Sandwich,	Simeon Cummings
Conway,	} Timothy Smith
Goffstown,	
Merrimack,	Jonathan Lovewell
Nottingham,	None sent
West, &c.	None sent
Dunstable,	Joshua Bailey
Hollis,	
Amherst,	
Hopkinton,	

Salisbury, &	{	Ebenezer Webster
Boscawen,		Voted not to send
Weare,	{	Jonathan Martin
Wilton, &c.		None sent.
New Boston,	{	None sent
Andover,		
Warner, &c.	{	Benjamin Mann
Mason, &		Timothy Farrar
Roby,	{	John Cragin, jr.
New Ipswich,		Reuben Morse
Temple, &	{	Amos Emery
Peterborough,		
Dublin, &	{	None sent
Marlborough &c.		James Underwood
Lyndeborough,	{	William Smiley
Hillsborough,		Daniel Newcomb
Litchfield, &c.	{	None sent.
Rindge, &		
Jaffrey,	{	Edward Goddard
Keene,		None sent
Packersfield,	{	
Swanzy, &		
Fitzwilliam,	{	
Hinsdale, &c.		
Westmoreland,	{	Thomas Sparhawk
Walpole,		John Bellows
Richmond,	{	Oliver Capron
Surry, &		
Alstead,	{	None sent
Newport, &c. &c.		Benjamin Giles
Unity,	{	William Markham
Acworth, &c,		Daniel Grant
Winchester,	{	
Charlestown,		
Claremont,	{	None sent
Cornish,		
Plainfield,	{	None sent
Plymouth, &c. &c.		
N. Holderness, &c. &c.	{	Francis Worcester
Lancaster, &c. &c. &c.		Samuel Emerson
	{	Moses Baker
		David Page, by Tradition from
	{	Conway
Haverhill,		None sent

AN ADDRESS OF THE CONVENTION

FOR FRAMING A NEW CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT, FOR
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO THE INHABITANTS OF
SAID STATE.

[SENT OUT, 1781.]

FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS,—

The General Assembly of this State having thought proper to issue precepts to the several towns within the same, for choosing delegates to form a Convention for the purpose of framing a civil Constitution for the people of this State; and the Convention having met in consequence of such choice, after maturely deliberating on the important subject, agree to report the following plan, which with the humblest deference is submitted to your impartial consideration.

The task of forming a Constitution, adapted not only to our present situation, but to the probable situation and circumstances of remote posterity, is an arduous one indeed! How far we have succeeded in it you are the sole judges. It is your interest as well as duty, to examine it with the most critical attention, and it is your unquestionable right to propose such alterations as you may judge necessary, to approve and establish it as it now stands, or wholly to reject it.

A perfect system of Government is not to be expected in the present imperfect state of humanity. But could a faultless one be framed, it would not be universally approved unless its Judges were all equally perfect. Much less then, may we presume to hope that the plan here offered to view will meet with universal approbation. Unanimity of sentiment is seldom to be found in any case; there are many reasons for despairing of it in the present. Besides the common sources for variety of opinions on points in general, there are new and particular ones in the case before us. There is nothing which our *open, avowed enemies* more dread than to see the several States each formed into a permanent and well-constructed body-politic; as nothing, under God, can more contribute to the stability of their councils or the success of their exertions. Nor have we any reason to doubt but that our *secret, internal enemies* are equally averse thereto. Every artifice will be devised, every effort tried, to frustrate an event equally dreaded by both. Let us guard against their machinations.

Nor is it our enemies only we have to dread. We have much to fear from our friends; from those who wish well to the common cause, and are equally opposed to the common enemy.

The love of Power is so alluring, we had almost said infatuating, that few have ever been able to resist its bewitching influence. Wherever power is lodged there is a constant propensity to enlarge its boundaries. Much more then, will those with whom it is entrusted, agonize to retain all that is clearly delegated to them.

When the people of this state first thought proper to assume government for themselves, it was a time of difficulty and peril. That form which was the simplest, and first presented itself to their view, in the perturbation of spirits that then prevailed, they adopted without that thorough discussion and calm deliberation which so important an object required. It was not intended to be lasting. It was expressly declared by themselves to be temporary.

In this imperfect form, the legislative and executive powers of government were vested in one body, to wit, in a General Court, consisting of two branches, a House of Representatives and a Council. Nor was any provision made therein for the exercise of the executive power in the recess of the General assembly. So great a defect was soon discovered and felt; and the Court thus established by the Constitution, without any new authority derived from the people, or without even consulting them, patch'd this flaw by delegating to a number of persons, whom they termed the "Committee of Safety," the executive power to be by them exercised in the recess of the General Assembly: which mode has been since continued, and the Committee have made an important part of the government.

A further defect among innumerable others, is the want of an EXCLUSION-BILL: In consequence of which, many of the individuals who compose the aforementioned body, assist in enacting laws, in explaining and applying them, and in carrying them into execution.

Can it seem strange then, that such persons, and indeed all who are vested with the aforementioned powers, should be backward in receiving and approving a Constitution that so remarkably retrenches them? that sets out in direct opposition to the present one, with this position, that the three essential powers of government ought ever to be kept totally independent of each other? It is not strange, it is perfectly natural; and the fact is fully verified by the length of time which the present form of government has been permitted to continue. But we trust you will with a manly and becoming firmness, oppose every interested adviser, reject every selfish motive, and with a noble independency of spirit, "even of yourselves judge what is right."

Having premised these things, we will proceed to consider

as critically as the limits of our time will admit, the frame of government herewith exhibited to your view; its principles, and some of the motives that induced us to prefer it to any other system which occurred to us.

Availing ourselves of the various theories and forms of government we could meet with, whether new or old, examining their principles, and comparing them, as far as we were able, with experience, the surest touchstone, and most infallible comment, we collected sufficient, and we hoped the best, materials for the political building now presented to your view.

The three powers of government, before hinted at, to wit, The Legislative, or power of making laws,—The Judicial, or power of expounding and applying them to each particular case—And the Executive, to carry them into effect, and give the political machine life and motion: These three important powers we have thought proper to keep as separate and distinct as possible, for the following reasons.

If they should be all united, the government, would then be a complete system of tyranny. The same party would be legislator, accuser, judge, and executioner.

If the Legislative and Judicial powers should be united, the maker of the law would be the interpreter thereof, and might make it speak what language best pleased him, to the total abolition of justice.

If the Executive and Legislative powers should be vested in one body, still greater evils would follow. This body would enact only such laws as it wished to carry into execution, and would, besides, entirely absorb and destroy the judicial power, one of the greatest securities of the life, liberty, and property of the subject: and in fine, would procure the same system of despotism first mentioned. And lastly, should the executive, and judicial powers be combined, the great barrier against oppression would be at once destroyed: The laws would be made to bend to the will of that power which sought to execute them with the most unbridled rapacity.

These several powers should also be independent; in order to which they are formed with a mutual check upon each other. We shall proceed to consider them distinctly.

The Legislative power we have vested in a Senate and House of Representatives (with the reserve hereafter mentioned) each of which branches is to have a negative on the other; and either may originate any Bill, except for the grant of monies which is always to originate in the house. Any alterations or amendments may be proposed by either branch, in all cases. We have given the supreme executive power the right of revising and objecting to all the acts passed by the legislature, for reasons hereafter to be mentioned. The manner of

electing the second branch, or House of Representatives, as it is new, requires a particular discussion.

Experience must have convinced every one who has been, in any degree, conversant with the transacting of business in public bodies, that a very large assembly is not the most convenient for the purpose. There is seldom so much order, and never so much dispatch, as is to be found in a smaller body. The reason is obvious. This has given birth to the mode of chusing committees out of the whole body; and experience hath demonstrated its utility. The Convention, therefore, were of opinion, that the confining this second branch to the number of fifty, which appeared to them sufficiently large for every purpose, would be attended with the following salutary consequences.

First. There would be, probably, a greater proportion of suitable men, than in a larger body. The manner of their choice, they being twice sifted, would likewise greatly promote this. The debates, would of course, be conducted with more wisdom, and unanimity. From their numbers, merely, there would be much less confusion, and infinitely more dispatch. This would of itself, produce an amazing saving in the expense, independent of the difference between paying fifty, and three times that number. For these and many other reasons, the reducing and confining this branch to a small number, was surely an achievement devoutly to be wished! But how was it to be effected? Should the mode hitherto practised of chusing members be continued, scarce three towns in the state, would be each entitled to elect one. Should several towns be joined together till a number sufficiently large was collected to choose a representative, this would be abridging the privileges of towns, confounding them with each other and destroying their independences. This has been practised in some few instances, but has been the source of much complaint, and many heavy evils.

The Convention therefore, after revolving the matter with the utmost attention, could hit upon no method that appeared to them in all respects, so unexceptionable as the one here offered. By allowing every town and parish having fifty rateable polls to elect one member to compose a certain body, out of which the people's representatives are to be chosen, almost every town and parish within the State that would wish to exert the privilege, is included, and even such as have less than fifty rateable polls are permitted to join another. Besides, in a few years, tis probable, there will be no towns which have not fifty families at least within the State. The larger towns being permitted to choose in the same proportion renders the representation as equal as the nature of things will admit.

These bodies thus chosen, one in each county, after dividing the districts as mentioned in the Constitution, are respectively to choose from among themselves the representatives of the people to sit in the General Court. This mode will be found, perhaps, as free, equal, and perfect, as any that can be devised. The objection, that in this way each town will not know, nor have the power of designating its own representative, will, perhaps, on examination, be found one of the strongest arguments in its favor. Those interested views, that party spirit, and zeal for rivalry, which too often takes place in towns on such occasions, will be hereby in a great measure destroyed; and the people will be under a necessity of acting upon higher and better principles.

The provision for publishing the journals of both Houses at the close of each session, supersedes another objection that might be stated against the want of information among the people, that the smallness of the Representative body might otherwise occasion. The only remaining objection of any weight, is the consequences that may arise from the assembling so large a number of people together at the County Conventions. To this it is replied, that the County Delegates thro' the State, will be divided into five separate and distinct bodies—that all will sit on the same day,—and probably not more than one day, unless upon extraordinary occasions—that they will be the chosen ones of the people, a most respectable body, with too much business on their hands to allow them time for dissipation, and too much of the people's welfare at their hearts to permit them to sow sedition. And even allowing some of the inconveniences hinted at really to follow, they must be less than if all should unite in one General Assembly, and sit, not one or two days only, but half the year, in the proportion of a hundred to one.

We have been thus particular upon this head of representation, partly on account of the novelty of the mode, and partly from a full conviction of the vast importance of the thing. And we leave it for your faithful discussion; observing as we do it, that it is what many great, wise, and learned men of our own, and other days, have wished to see put in practise, and have not seen it.

The choice and powers of the Senate, having less of novelty and being sufficiently explained in the Constitution we shall pass over with a bare mention, and proceed to the Executive Power.

This Power is the active principle in all governments: It is the soul, and without it the body-politic is but a dead corpse. Its department is to put in execution all the laws enacted by the legislative body. It ought therefore, to have the appoint-

ment of all the civil officers of the State. It is at the head of the militia, and therefore should have equally the appointment of all the military officers within the same. Its characteristic requisites are secrecy, vigour, and dispatch. The fewer persons, therefore, this supreme power is trusted with, the greater probability there is that these requisites will be found. The convention therefore, on the maturest deliberation, have thought it best to lodge this power in the hands of one, whom they have stiled the GOVERNOR. They have indeed, array'd him with honors, they have armed him with power, and set him on high. But still he is only the right hand of *your* power, and the mirror of *your* majesty. Every possible provision is made to guard against the abuse of this high betrustment and protect the rights of the people.

The manner of his choice is such, that he is the most perfect representative of the people. He can take no one step of importance without the advice of his privy-council; and he is elected annually. But, as if this was too little, no one person is capable of being elected oftener than three years in seven. Every necessary and useful qualification is required in him, in point of age, religion, residency, and fortune. In addition to all which, he is liable for every misconduct to be impeached, tried, and displaced, by the two legislative branches; and is amenable to the laws besides, equally with the meanest subject of the State. Thus controlled and checked himself the Convention thought it reasonable and necessary, that he, in turn, should have some check on the legislative-power. They therefore gave him the right of objecting to and suspending, tho' not the absolute control over the acts of that body; which they thought indispensably necessary to repel any encroachments on the executive power, and preserve its independency.

The Judicial department falls next under our consideration.

This comprehends the Judges of the several courts, and the Justices of peace throughout the State. These are all appointed by the Governor, with the advice of Council, but not removable by him in case of misconduct, but by the legislature, and in no case without the intervention of that body.

The Judges all hold their offices during good behavior; the only proper term, especially for the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, as they ought, in a peculiar manner, to feel themselves independent and free, and as none would be at the pains to qualify themselves for such important places, if they were liable to be removed at pleasure. As another inducement for persons so to qualify themselves as an encouragement to vigilance, and an antidote to bribery and corruption; adequate, honorable, and permanent salaries to the Judges of the Supreme Court in a particular manner, we

have made essential in the Constitution, and do now most strongly recommend.

The alteration of Justices' commissions from life to five years, is to guard against age, incapacity, and too large a number; to secure the appointment of the best; and to prevent too frequent addresses and impeachments. You will judge of the propriety and expediency of this innovation, and either give it your sanction or not, as appears to you best.

The reasons for the EXCLUSION BILL are too obvious to be pointed out. Sad experience has evinced the necessity of such a provision. Besides the interference of several offices held by the same person, in point of *time*, which we have often *seen*; and the difficulty of one man's giving his attention to many matters sufficiently to understand them all, which we have too *often felt*; there is still a stronger reason, which is the difficulty of a man's preserving his integrity in discharging the duties of each unstained—at least by suspicion.

From the deepest impression of the vast importance of LITERATURE in a free government, we have interwoven it with, and made its protection and encouragement a part of the Constitution itself.

The BILL OF RIGHTS contains the essential principles of the Constitution. It is the foundation on which the whole political fabric is reared, and is consequently, a most important part thereof. We have endeavored therein to ascertain and define the most important and essential natural rights of man. We have distinguished betwixt the alienable and unalienable rights: for the former of which men may receive an equivalent: for the latter, or the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE, they can receive none; The World itself being wholly inadequate to the purchase. "For what is a man profited, though he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

The various modes of worship among mankind, are founded in their various sentiments and beliefs concerning the GREAT OBJECT of all religious worship and adoration. Therefore to him alone and not to man, are they accountable for them.

Thus the Convention have endeavored to explain as particularly as they could without trespassing on your patience, the reasons and principles upon which they have labored to form this Constitution. They have done it in integrity and faithfulness. They conceived themselves as part of the community for which the Constitution is intended, and therefore equally interested with the other members in framing the best. Whatever latent defects there may be in it, time will discover them—and, at the end of seven years, provision is made that they may be amended. Confiding therefore, in your candor, and humbly imploring on your behalf, that assistance which the

fountain of Wisdom sees you need, we leave it in your hands, and wait with cheerful acquiescence, your decision.

In the Name and pursuant to a Resolution of the Convention.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest. JONA. M. SEWALL, Secretary.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF 1781.

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT, AGREED UPON BY THE DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN CONVENTION,

Begun and held at Concord, on the second Tuesday of June, 1781, and continued by adjournment, to the second Tuesday of September following: To be submitted to the PEOPLE for their revision, in order to the completing of the same, in conformity to their amendments, at a session to be holden for that purpose, on the fourth Wednesday of January next.

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

PART I.

A Declaration of the Rights of the People of New Hampshire.

ARTICLE I.

All men are born equally free and independent, therefore all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.

II.

All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are,—the enjoying and defending life and liberty—acquiring, possessing and protecting property,—and in a word of seeking and obtaining happiness.

III.

When Men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society in order to secure the protection of others, and without such an equivalent the surrender is void.

IV.

Among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE.

V.

Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and reason,—and no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty or estate for worshipping God, in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, or for his religious profession, sentiments or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace or disturb others in their religious worship.

VI.

As morality and piety, rightly grounded on evangelical principles, will give the best and greatest security to Government, and will lay in the hearts of men the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the Deity and of public instruction in morality and religion; therefore to promote these important purposes, the people of this State have a right to empower, and do hereby fully empower the Legislature to authorize from time to time, the several towns, parishes, bodies corporate or religious societies within this State to make adequate provision at their own expence, for the support and maintenance of public Protestant teachers of piety, religion and morality;

Provided notwithstanding, That the several towns, parishes, bodies-corporate or religious societies, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance. And no person of any one particular religious sect or denomination, shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect or denomination.

And every denomination of christians demeaning themselves quietly and as good subjects of the State, shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law.

And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry, but all such contracts shall remain and be in the same state as if this Constitution had not been made.

VII.

The people of this State have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign and independent State, and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise, and enjoy every power, jurisdiction and right pertaining thereto, which is not, or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled.

VIII.

All power residing originally in, and being derived from the people, all the magistrates, and officers of government, are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them.

IX.

No office or place whatsoever in government shall be hereditary—the abilities and integrity requisite in all, not being transmissible to posterity or relations.

X.

Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men, therefore whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old, or establish a new government; the doctrine of non resistance against arbitrary power, and oppression is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

XI.

All elections ought to be free, and every inhabitant of the State having the proper qualifications, has equal right to elect, and be elected into office.

XII.

Every member of the community has a right to be protected by it in the enjoyment of his life, liberty and property—he is therefore bound to contribute his share in the expence of such protection, and to yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent. But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent or that of the Representative body of the people. Nor are the inhabitants of this State controllable by any other laws than those to which they or their Representative body have given their consent.

XIII.

No person who is conscientiously scrupulous about the law-

fulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto, provided he will pay an equivalent.

XIV.

Every subject of this state is entitled to a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries he may receive in his person, property or character, to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without any denial; promptly, and without delay, conformably to the laws.

XV.

No subject shall be held to answer for any crime, or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every subject shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to himself; to meet the witnesses against him face to face, and to be fully heard in his defence by himself, and Counsel. And no subject shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled, or deprived of his life, liberty or estate, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

XVI.

No subject shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for any crime or offence whatsoever. Nor shall the Legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment, excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service, without trial by jury.

XVII.

In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of the life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than where it is committed.

XVIII.

All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offence. No wise Legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery and the like, that they do to those of murder and treason; where the same undistinguishing severity is exerted against all offences, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do those of the lightest dye; for the same reason a multitude of sanguinary laws are both impolitic and unjust. The true design of all punishment being to reform, not to exterminate, mankind.

XIX.

Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. All warrants, therefore, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them, be not previously supported by oath, or affirmation; and if the order in the warrant to a civil officer, to make search in suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure; And no warrant ought to be issued but in cases, and with the formalities prescribed by the laws.

XX.

In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, except in cases in which it has been heretofore otherwise used and practised, the parties have a right to trial by jury; and this method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless in causes arising on the high seas, and such as relate to Mariners wages, the Legislature shall find it necessary hereafter to alter it.

XXI.

In order to reap the fullest advantage of the inestimable privilege of the trial by jury, great care ought to be taken that none but qualified persons should be capable of serving, and such ought to be fully compensated for their travel, time and attendance.

XXII.

The liberty of the Press is essential to the security of freedom in a State; it ought therefore to be inviolably preserved.

XXIII.

Retrospective laws are highly injurious, oppressive and unjust. No such laws therefore should be made, either for the decision of civil causes, or the punishment of offences.

XXIV.

A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defence of a State.

XXV.

Standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without the consent of the Legislature.

XXVI.

In all cases, and at all times, the military ought to be under strict subordination to, and governed by the civil power.

XXVII.

No soldier in time of peace shall be quarter'd in any house without the consent of the owner, and in time of war such quarters ought not to be made but by the civil magistrate in a manner ordained by the Legislature.

XXVIII.

No subsidy, charge, tax, impost or duty shall be established, fixed, laid, or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people or their Representatives in the Legislature or authority derived from that body.

XXIX.

The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of them, ought never to be exercised but by the Legislature, or by authority derived therefrom, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the Legislature shall expressly provide for.

XXX.

The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either House of the Legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any action, complaint, or prosecution, in any other court or place whatsoever.

XXXI.

The Legislature ought frequently to assemble for the redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening, and confirming the laws, and for making new ones, as the common good may require.

XXXII.

The people have a right in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble in order to consult upon the common good, give instructions to their Representatives; and to request of the Legislative-body, by way of petition or remonstrance, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

XXXIII.

No magistrate or court of law shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

XXXIV.

No person can in any case be subjected to law-martial, or to any pains, or penalties by virtue of that law, except those persons employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service, but by the authority of the Legislature.

XXXV.

It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty property and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of Justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by Judges as impartial as the lot of humanity will admit. It is therefore not only the best policy but for the security of the rights of the people that the Judges of the Supreme (or Superior) Judicial Court should hold their offices so long as they behave well; and that they should have honorable Salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

XXXVI.

Economy being a most essential virtue in all States, more especially in a young one, no person ought to receive any stipend, or salary, but as an equivalent for actual services, and the Legislature ought to be exceeding cautious of granting pensions, especially for life.

XXXVII.

In the government of this state, the three essential powers thereof, to wit, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial, ought to be kept as separate from and independent of each other, as the nature of a free government will admit, or as is consistent with that chain of connection that binds the whole fabric of the Constitution in one indissoluble bond of union and amity.

XXXVIII.

A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government; the people ought therefore, to have a particular regard to all those principles in the choice of their officers and representatives: And they have a right to require of their law givers and magistrates an exact and constant observance of them in the formation and execution of the laws necessary for the good administration of government.

PART II.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

The people inhabiting the territory formerly called the Province of New Hampshire, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign and independent Body-politic or State, by the Name of the STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

THE GENERAL COURT.

The supreme legislative power within this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

The Senate and House shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of June, and at such other times as they may judge necessary, and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday of June, and shall be stiled the GENERAL COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

No bill or resolve of the Senate or House of Representatives, shall become a law, and have force, as such, until it shall have been laid before the Governor for his revisal: And if he, upon such revision, approve thereof, he shall signify his approbation by signing the same. But if he has any objection to the passing of such bill or resolve, he shall return the same, together with his objections thereto, in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in whichsoever the same shall have originated; who shall enter the objections sent down by the Governor, at large, on their records, and proceed to reconsider the said bill or resolve: But if upon such reconsideration, three quarters of said Senate or House of Representatives, shall notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the Legislature, where it shall be also reconsidered, and if approved by three quarters of the members present, it shall have the force of a law: But in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the persons voting for, or against, the said bill or resolve, shall be entered upon the public records of the State.

And in order to prevent unnecessary delays, if any bill or resolve shall not be returned by the Governor within eight days after it shall have been presented, the same shall have the force of law.

The General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute Judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the State, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, complaints, actions, causes, matters and things, whatsoever, arising, or happening within this State, or between or concerning persons inhabiting, or residing or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital, or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal or mixt; and for the awarding and issuing Execution thereon: To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and au-

thority, from time to time, to administer oaths or affirmations for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

And farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions, and instructions, either with penalties or without; so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this State, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this State; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom, are hereafter in this form of government, otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers and limits, of the several civil and military officers of this State, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said State; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the Governor of this State for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the government of this State, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are or shall be in force within the same.

And while the public charge of government, or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has hitherto been practiced, in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the State taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.

SENATE.

There shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, twelve persons to be Senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this State may from time to time be divided by the General Court, for that purpose: And the Gen

eral Court, in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the State, the limits of each district, and the number of Senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five. And the several Counties in this State, shall, until the General Court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of Senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

Rockingham, Five.

Strafford, Two.

Cheshire, Two.

Hillsborough, Two.

Grafton, One.

The Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature; and the Senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. every male inhabitant of each town and parish with town-privileges, in the several counties in this State, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, having a freehold estate in his own right, of the value of One hundred pounds; situated in this State, or other estate to that amount, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said towns and parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of March, to vote in the town or parish wherein he dwells, for the senators in the county or district whereof he is a member.

And every person, qualified as the constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this state in that town, parish or plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

The Selectmen of the several towns and parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns and parishes present and qualified to vote for senators, and shall sort and count the same in the meeting, and in presence of the town clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the Selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name, and a fair copy of this record, shall be attested by the Selectmen and town clerk, and shall be scaled up and directed to the Secretary of the State, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by the said clerk to the sheriff of the county in which such town or parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of

June; and the sheriff of each county or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received, into the Secretary's office, seventeen days, at least, before the first Wednesday of June.

And the inhabitants of plantations & places unincorporated, qualified as this constitution provides, who are, or shall be, required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor; shall have the same privilege of voting for senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective towns and parishes aforesaid have: And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose shall be holden annually in the month of March, at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the Selectmen and town clerks have in the several towns by this constitution.

And that there may be a due meeting of senators on the first Wednesday of June annually, the Governor and three of the Council for the time being, shall as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of June, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: Provided, nevertheless, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the president and five of the Council of the former constitution of government; and the said president shall in like manner, notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

The senate shall be final judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in the constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of June annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be senators by a majority of votes: And in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. the members of the house of representatives and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and out of them shall elect by joint ballot the number of senators wanted for such district: And in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the state, and in like manner all vacancies in the senate, arising by death, removal out of the state, or otherwise,

shall be supplied as soon as may be, after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not of the Protestant Religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of four hundred pounds, clear of debt, lying within this state, and who is not of the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

The senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

The senate shall choose its own president, appoint its own officers, and determine its own rules of proceedings. And not less than eight members of the senate shall make a quorum for doing business.

The senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the house of representatives, against any officer or officers of the State, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend further than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this state; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

There shall be in the legislature of this state, a representation of the people, consisting of fifty members, apportioned upon each county, as follows, viz. for the

County of Rockingham, twenty;

 Strafford, eight;

 Hillsborough, ten;

 Cheshire, eight;

 Grafton, four;

and elected in County-Conventions.

In order that the representation of the citizens of this state, may be as equal as a large political society will admit; every corporate town, and parish, having town privileges, containing fifty rateable polls, may elect one delegate for such County Convention, wherein such town or parish lies; every such town, or parish, containing one hundred rateable polls, may elect two such delegates, and so proceeding in that manner, making fifty the mean increasing number for every additional

delegate. And if after the fifties are deducted, there should remain twenty five, or more such rateable polls, that remaining number shall entitle such town or parish to elect another delegate therefor. And every corporate town, or parish with town privileges, which now, or hereafter, shall not contain fifty rateable polls, shall have a right to join, or associate with some town or towns adjoining, for the election of delegates; and in such cases, the votes thus united, shall have the right to elect the same number of delegates, as they would have done were they inhabitants of one corporate town; which delegates may be elected out of either of the associated towns, or parishes, indifferently. And the legislature, from time to time, shall determine what towns or parishes shall thus associate, the manner of their association, and the method of calling and conducting the meetings of such associated towns and parishes, for the election of delegates to the county conventions.

The delegates for the county conventions shall be elected by a majority of written votes, and no person shall be a delegate, unless he be of the Protestant Religion, and for two years next preceding his election an inhabitant of the town, parish, or association, for which he may be chosen; and shall have an estate of the value of two hundred pounds clear of debt, one half of which, shall be a freehold whereof he is seized in his own right, situate in the town, parish, or association, for which he may be elected.

The meeting of the several towns, parishes and associations, for the choice of such delegates, shall after being duly warned, be holden in the respective towns, parishes & associations in the month of March annually.

The Selectmen of the several towns, parishes and associations, shall preside at such meetings, receive the votes of the inhabitants thereof present, and qualified to vote for such delegates, in presence of the clerk thereof, who shall make a fair record in said meeting, in presence of the Selectmen, of the names of the delegates chosen by a majority of votes, and of the number of votes for each against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the Selectmen and clerk of the meeting, and timely delivered to each delegate.

The conventions for the choice of representatives for each county shall be holden at the following time and places, viz. on the third Wednesday of April annually. At Chester, for and in the county of Rockingham; At Rochester, for and in the county of Strafford; At Amherst, for and in the county of Hillsborough; At Walpole, for and in the county of Cheshire; At Haverhill, for and in the county of Grafton.

The places for holding such conventions, may be altered by

the legislature, for others more convenient within the respective counties. A quorum of each convention for doing business, shall never be less than two thirds of its members.

Each convention shall be the judge of the returns, qualifications, and elections of its own members as pointed out in the constitution, shall choose their own president and clerk, and settle rules for their own proceedings.

Each county shall contain as many districts, as the same shall have representatives, and each district in each county, shall be so divided by the respective annual conventions, as each shall contain equal number of rateable polls, or as near as may be.

The several counties in the State shall be so divided into districts by the conventions of each county, at their first annual meeting; and forever after at every fifth annual convention, Which being done, each convention, shall elect by a majority of written votes out of the members who are chosen to compose such convention, a representative for each district; and living within the district for which he may be chosen. And the president of such convention, with the clerk, shall sort and count the votes, and declare who are chosen representatives by a majority of votes for each district within such county, and the clerk shall make a fair record of the names of each representative, and of the number of votes for each against his name. in open convention; and deliver a copy of the record attested by the president and clerk, to each representative, as soon as may be.

Each convention shall have power to adjourn themselves but not longer than two days at a time. All intermediate vacancies in the house of representatives, may be filled up from time to time by the convention of the county wherein the same may happen, agreeably to the writ from the house of representatives for that purpose; which occasional convention shall be holden at the same places appointed for the annual ones, and at such times as the writ shall direct; and such representatives shall be elected and returned, in like manner as those at the annual conventions.

The house of representatives shall be chosen annually, and shall be the second branch of the legislature.

The wages and travel to the General Court, and returning home, once in every session, shall be paid out of the public treasury, to every member, who in the judgment of the house, shall attend seasonably, and not depart without leave.

The house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of the State, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

All money bills shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

The house of representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but not longer than two days at a time.

Two thirds of the members of the house of representatives elected, provided the said two thirds do not amount to a less number than thirty, shall make a quorum for doing business.

No member of the house of representatives or senate shall be arrested, or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the court.

The house of representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, settle the rules of proceedings in their own house; and issue writs to fill up any intermediate vacancies therein. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behaviour, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any of its members during his attendance at any session, in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness or other person, ordered to attend and during his attendance, of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The Senate and Governor, and Council, shall have the same powers in like cases, provided that no imprisonment by either for any offence, exceed ten days.

The Journals of the proceedings of both houses of the General Court, shall be printed and published immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

The legislature shall once every five years from the commencement of this constitution, apportion the representatives anew to and for each county, according to the number of rateable polls each may contain.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

GOVERNOR.

There shall be a supreme executive Magistrate, who shall be stiled, the GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire; and whose Title shall be HIS EXCELLENCY.

The Governor shall be chosen annually; and no person

shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years, and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of one thousand pounds, one half of which shall consist of a freehold, clear of debt, within the state; and unless he shall be of the Protestant religion.

Those persons qualified to vote for delegates to the county conventions, within the several towns, parishes, and plantations, of this state, shall at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of March annually, give in their votes for a Governor to the select men, who shall preside at such meeting, and the clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the select men, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name; and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books; and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants seal up a copy of said list, attested by him and the selectmen, and transmit the same to the sheriff of the county, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of June, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the secretary of the state, seventeen days at least, before said day: who shall lay the same before the senate and house of representatives on the first Wednesday of June, to be by them examined: And in case of an election by a majority of votes thro' the state, the choice shall be by them declared and published: But if no person shall have a majority of votes, the house of representatives shall by ballot elect two out of four persons, who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the senate of the two persons so elected, on which the senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them, who shall be declared GOVERNOR.

The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the general court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said court; and during the session of said court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire; and to call it together sooner, than the time to which it may be adjourned, or prorogued, if the welfare of the state should require the same.

In cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the Governor, with advice of Council, shall have the right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days, at any one time, as he may determine the public good may re-

quire. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of June. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths, or lives, of the members from their attendance, the Governor may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the State.

The Governor of this State for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the State, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise, and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this state, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this state: and also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means. all and every such person and persons, as shall at any time, hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this State; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the legislature to exist, as occasion shall necessarily require. And also from time to time, to erect forts, and fortify any place or places within the said state, and the same to furnish with all necessary ammunition, provisions and warlike stores for defence and offence, and to commit, from time to time, the custody and government of the same, to such person or persons as to him may seem meet: And in time of emergency, the said forts and fortifications to demolish at his discretion: and to take and surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this State: and in fine, that the Governor be, and hereby is intrusted with all other powers incident to the office of Captain-General and Commander in Chief, and Admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land. Provided, that the Governor shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this state, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the general court; nor grant commissions for

exercising the law martial upon any of the inhabitants of this state, without the advice and consent of the council of the same.

The power of pardoning of offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the senate by the impeachment of the house, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council. But no charter of pardon granted by the Governor, with the advice of Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

All judicial officers, the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, all Sheriffs, Coroners, Registers of Probate, and other civil officers, except such as are to be otherwise elected or appointed by this constitution, or the laws of the state, and all officers of the militia and navy shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council; and every such nomination shall be made by the Governor, at least seven days prior to such appointment.

No officer, duly commissioned to command in the militia, shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court martial, pursuant to the laws of the state for the time being.

The commanding officers of regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade majors; the major-generals their aids; the captains and sub-alterns their non-commissioned officers.

The Governor, with the advice of Council, shall appoint all officers of the Continental army, whom by the confederation of the United States it is provided that this state shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

The division of the militia into Brigades, regiments, and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this state, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this state, and disposed of, (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurers notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the Governor, for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the council, for the necessary support and defence of this state, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the general court.

All public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this

state, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon with their appendages and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: And the commanding officer shall exhibit to the governor, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea or harbor or harbors adjacent.

And to prevent an undue influence in this state, which the first magistrate thereof may acquire, by the long possession of the important powers and trusts of that office, as also to stimulate others to qualify themselves for the service of the public, in the highest stations, no man shall be eligible as governor of this state, more than three years in any seven.

And as the public good requires, that the Governor should not be under the undue influence of any members of the two houses, by a dependence on them for support, that he should in all cases act with freedom for the benefit of the public; that he should not have his attention necessarily diverted from that object to his private concerns; and that he should maintain the dignity of the State in the character of its Chief Magistrate; it is necessary that he should have an honorable stated salary of a fixed and permanent value, amply sufficient for those purposes, and established by standing laws; and it shall be among the first acts of the general court after the commencement of this constitution, to establish such salary by law accordingly.

Permanent and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the Justices of the Superior Court.

Whenever the chair of the Governor shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the state, or otherwise, the President of the Senate, for the time being, shall during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this constitution the Governor is vested with when personally present; and whenever the President shall fill the chair, he shall have no voice in the Senate.

COUNCIL.

There shall be a Council for advising the Governor, in the executive part of government, to consist of five persons, whom the Governor for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the Governor, with the Counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may, from time to time, hold and keep a council, for

ordering and directing the affairs of the State, according to the laws of the land.

Five Counsellors shall be annually chosen from among the people at large, on the first Wednesday of June annually by joint ballot of the Senators and representatives in one room assembled. The qualifications for counsellors, shall be the same as those required for senators.

The resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and the record may be called for at any time, by either house of the legislature, and any member of the Council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

And whereas the elections appointed to be made by this constitution, on the first Wednesday of June annually, by the two houses of the legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows: the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the Governor shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people: And afterwards the two houses shall proceed to the election of the COUNCIL.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &C.

The Secretary, Treasurer, and Commissary-General, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in one room: and no man shall be eligible as Treasurer or commissary-general of this state, more than five years successively.

The records of the state shall be kept in the office of the secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the governor and council, the senate and representatives, in person, or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &C.

The County-Treasurers and Registers of Deeds shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several counties in the state, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the state: And before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond, with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the county, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

The tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commis-

sions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this constitution: Provided nevertheless, the Governor, with consent of council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the legislature.

Each branch of the legislature, as well as the governor and council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the superior court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

In order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of Justices of the peace shall expire and become void, in the term of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the State.

The judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts, at such place, or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the legislature shall from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments the said courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

All causes of marriage, divorces and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the superior court, until the legislature shall, by law, make other provisions.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

The Clerks of the Superior Court of Judicature, Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, and General Sessions of the Peace, shall be appointed by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said courts, no such clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the court of which he is clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS.

The Delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, shall sometime between the first Wednesday of June and the first Wednesday of September annually, be elected by the senate and house of representatives in their separate branches, to serve in congress for one year; to commence on the first Monday in November then next ensuing. They shall

have commissions under the hand of the governor, and the great seal of the state; but may be recalled at any time within the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead. And they shall have the same qualifications in all respects, as by this constitution are required for the governor.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF LITERATURE, &c.

Knowledge and Learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the legislators and magistrates, in all future periods of this government, to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures, and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and economy, honesty and punctuality in their dealings; sincerity, sobriety, and all social affections, and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATHS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION FROM OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION OF LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; THE ENACTING STILE; CONTINUANCE OF OFFICERS; PROVISION FOR A FUTURE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION, &c.

Any person chosen Governor, Counsellor, Senator or Representative, accepting the trust, shall before he proceeds to execute the duties of his office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the State of New Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign, and independent State; and do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to the same, and that I will defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever; and that I do renounce any subjection and obedience to the sovereign, or government of Great Britain, and every foreign power whatsoever, and that no foreign prince, person, pre-

late, state or potentate hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, superiority, pre-eminence, authority dispensing or other power, in any matter civil, ecclesiastical, or political within this State, except the power and authority which is, or may be vested by their Constituents in the Congress of the United States: And I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession, testimony, declaration, denial and renunciation, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatsoever.

So help me God.

I A. B. do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire. "So help me God."

Provided always, When any Person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called Quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oath, such shall take and subscribe them, omitting the word "Swear" and likewise the words "So help me God," subjoining instead thereof, This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury. And the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, before the President of the Senate in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly; and by the Senate and Representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and three of the Council of the former Constitution, and forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being: and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

All commissions shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the State affixed thereto.

All writs issuing out of the clerk's office in any of the courts of law, shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the court whence they issue and bear test of the chief, first or senior Justice of the court; but when such Justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other Justice of the court, to which the same shall be returnable, and be signed by the clerk of such Court.

All indictments, presentments and information shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the State.

The estates of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such person had died in a natural way. Nor shall any article, which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

All the laws which have heretofore been adopted, read and approved, in the Province, Colony or State of New Hampshire, and usually practised on in the courts of law, shall still remain and be in full force, until altered and repealed by the Legislature; such parts there off *only* excepted, as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution.

The privilege and benefit of the Habeas Corpus, shall be enjoyed in this State, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

The enacting stile in making and passing Acts, Statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted* by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened.

No Governor, or Judge of the Superior Court, shall hold any office or place, under the authority of this State, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the Judges of the said Court may hold the offices of Justice of the Peace throughout the State; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, Government or Power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz, Judge of Probate, Sheriff, Register of Deeds; and never more than two offices of profit which may be held by appointment of the Governor, or Governor and Council, or Senate and House of Representatives, or Superior or Inferior Courts; military offices and offices of Justices of the Peace excepted.

No person holding the office of Judge of the Superior Court, Secretary, Treasurer of the State, Judge of Probate, Commissary General, Military Officers receiving pay from the Continent or this State; excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, President, Professor or Instructor of any College, Sheriff or officer of the Customs, including naval officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives or Council; but their being chosen or appointed to and accepting the same shall operate as a resig-

nation of their seat in the Senate, or House of Representatives or Council, and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a Seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this Government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery, or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

In all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver at six shillings and eight pence per ounce. And it shall be in the power of the Legislature to increase such qualifications as to property of persons to be elected to office, as the circumstances of the State may require.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this State from a change of the form of Government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the Government and People of New Hampshire, and other officers of the said Government and People, at the time this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the Executive and Legislative Bodies and Persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the General Court and the supreme and other Executive officers under this Constitution, are designated and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

This form of Government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the Constitution, and to correct any violation thereof; as well as to make such alterations therein, as from experience may be found necessary, the General Court shall after the expiration of seven years from the time this Constitution shall take effect, issue their precepts to the selectmen of the several towns, and to the assessors of unincorporated places within this State, directing them to convene the qualified voters therein, for the purpose of collecting their sentiments on the necessity or expediency of revising the Constitution in order for amendments: And if it shall appear by the returns made, that two thirds of the qualified voters through the State who shall assemble and vote in consequence of said precepts, are in favor of such revision and amendments, the General Court shall issue precepts,

or direct them to be issued from the Secretary's office, to the several towns and unincorporated places to elect delegates to meet in Convention for the purpose aforesaid: The said delegates to be chosen in the same manner and proportion as the delegates to the annual County Conventions, are by this Constitution.

In Convention, September 14, 1781.

Resolved that this Convention be adjourned to the fourth Wednesday of January next, to meet at Concord; and that seven hundred copies of the Plan of Government, which is agreed upon, to be printed, including such as shall be ordered to each member of the General Court, and of the Convention, be sent to the selectmen of each town, and assessors of each plantation, under the direction of the Committee appointed for that purpose: And that the selectmen and assessors be requested as soon as may be to lay the same before the inhabitants of their respective towns and plantations. And if the major part of the inhabitants of said towns and plantations disapprove of any particular part of the same, that they be desired to state their objections distinctly and the reasons therefor. And the selectmen and assessors are desired to transmit the same to the Convention on the fourth Wednesday of January aforesaid, or to the Secretary of the Convention before then, in order for the revision and consideration of the convention at the adjournment; with the number of voters in said towns and plantations meetings, on each side of the question: That the Convention may be able to collect the general sense of the people of this State on the several parts of the proposed Constitution: And if there should not appear to be two thirds of the people in favor thereof, that the Convention may alter it in such manner as may be most agreeable to the sentiments of two thirds of the voters throughout this State.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

On the fourth Wednesday of January, 1782, the Convention met according to adjournment; and on examination of the returns of votes, found the Constitution was rejected. The Convention then adjourned to the third Wednesday in August following, at which they agreed on another Plan of Government, which was sent out to the people with another Address.

SECOND ADDRESS OF THE CONVENTION

FOR FRAMING A NEW CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT
FOR THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, TO THE INHABITANTS
OF SAID STATE.

[Sent out in 1782.]

NOTE.—This ADDRESS, though very similar in many points to the first, is evidently modified by the "*reasons*" which the people assigned for rejecting the first Constitution. ED.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS,

THE *General-Assembly* of this State having thought proper to issue precepts to the several Towns within the same, for choosing delegates to form a Convention for the purpose of framing a civil Constitution for the people of this State; and the Convention having repeatedly met in consequence of such choice, maturely deliberated on the important subject, collected as nearly as possible the sentiments of the Inhabitants of this State from their returns laid before the Convention in June last, agree to report the following plan, which with the humblest deference is submitted to your impartial consideration.

THE forming a Constitution, adapted not only to our present situation, but to the probable circumstances of remote posterity, is truly an arduous task! How far we have succeeded in the attempt, you are the sole judges. It is your interest as well as duty, to examine it with the most critical attention; and it is your unquestionable right to propose such alterations as you may judge necessary, to approve and establish the plan as it now stands, or wholly to reject it.

A PERFECT system of Government is not to be expected in the present imperfect state of humanity. But could a faultless one be framed, it would not be universally approved, unless its judges were all equally perfect. Much less then, may we presume to hope that the plan here offered to view will meet with universal approbation. Unanimity of sentiment is seldom to be found in any case; there are many reasons for despairing of it in the present. Besides the common sources for variety of opinions on points in general, there are new and particular ones in the case before us. There is nothing which our *open, avowed enemies* more dread than to see the several States, each formed into a permanent and well-constructed body-politick, as nothing under GOD, can more contribute to the stability of their councils, or the success of their exertions. Nor have we any reason to doubt but that our *secret, internal enemies* are equally averse thereto. Every artifice will be devised, every effort tried, to frustrate an event equally dreaded by both. Let us guard against their machinations.

WHEN the people of this State first thought proper to assume government for themselves, it was a time of difficulty and peril. That form which was the simplest, and first presented itself to their view, in the perturbation of spirits that then prevailed, they adopted without that thorough discussion and calm deliberation which so important an object required. It was not intended to be lasting. It was expressly declared by themselves to be temporary.

IN this imperfect form, the Legislative and Executive powers of government were vested in one body, to wit, in a General Court, consisting of two branches, a House of Representatives and a Council. Nor was any provision made therein for the exercise of the executive power in the recess of the General-Assembly. So great a defect was soon discovered and felt; and the Court thus established by the Constitution, were compelled to attempt a remedy by delegating the executive-power to a Committee of Safety in the recess of the General-Assembly; which mode has since been continued, and this Committee has made an important part of the government.

A FURTHER defect, among many others, is the want of an EXCLUSION BILL: In consequence of which, some individuals assist in enacting laws, in explaining and applying them, and even in carrying them into execution.

WHILE we forbear to mention a variety of other imperfections, permit us to suggest, that the great expence incurred by frequent meetings of the Committee of Safety, and the delay necessarily occasioned by the business of the executive department being intrusted to so great a

number of persons, have been too sensibly felt to require arguments on our part, to convince you that an alteration in this respect, will promote the interest of every individual in the community.

HAVING premised these things, we will proceed to consider as critically as the limits of our time will admit, the frame of government herewith exhibited to your view; its principles, and some of the motives that induced us to prefer it to any other system which occurred to us.

AVAILING ourselves of the various theories and forms of government we could meet with, whether new or old, examining their principles, and comparing them, as far as we were able, with experience, the surest touchstone, and most infallible comment, we collected sufficient, and we hoped the best materials, for the political building now presented to your view.

THE three powers of government before hinted at, to wit—The legislative, or power of making laws—The judicial, or power of expounding and applying them to each particular case—And the executive, to carry them into effect, and give the political machine life and motion: These three important powers we have thought proper to keep as separate and distinct as possible, for the following reasons.

If they should be all united, the government would then be a complete system of tyranny. The same party would be legislator, accuser, judge and executioner.

If the legislative and judicial powers should be united, the maker of the law would be the interpreter thereof, and might make it speak what language best pleased him, to the total abolition of justice.

If the executive and legislative powers should be vested in one body, still greater evils would follow. This body would enact only such laws as it wished to carry into execution, and would besides, entirely absorb and destroy the judicial power, one of the greatest securities of the life, liberty, and property of the subject; and in fine, would produce the same system of despotism first mentioned.

AND lastly, should the executive and judicial powers be combined, the great barrier against oppression would be at once destroyed: The laws would be made to bend to the will of that power which sought to execute them with the most unbridled rapacity.

THESE several powers should also be independent; in order to which they are formed with a check upon each other. We shall proceed to consider them distinctly.

THE legislative-power we have vested in a Senate and House of Representatives (with the reserve hereafter mentioned) each of which branches is to have a negative on the other; and either may originate any Bill, except for the grant of monies, which is always to originate in the House. Any alterations or amendments may be proposed by either branch, in all cases. We have given the supreme executive power the right of revising and objecting to all the acts passed by the legislature, for reasons hereafter to be mentioned.

THE mode of representation is not only the best we could devise, but is conformed to the sentiments of a very great majority of individuals in the State, as appears by the returns which they have been pleased to lay before us; and doth not materially differ from that which has long been practised upon in this government: consequently not likely to produce those dangerous evils, which too often flow from the adopting systems not recommended by the voice of experience. Every town, parish, or place, however inconsiderable, may be represented by being classed with some other; and where this cannot be done without inconvenience, the General-Assembly is impowered to grant relief. And should any defects be discovered in the present mode of representation,

a revision at the end of seven years, will afford sufficient opportunity to apply a remedy.

THE choice and powers of the Senate being sufficiently explained in the Constitution, we shall pass over with a bare mention, and proceed to the executive-power.

THIS power is the active principle in all governments. Its department is to put in execution all the laws enacted by the Legislative-body. Its characteristic requisites are secrecy, vigour, and dispatch. The fewer persons therefore, this supreme power is trusted with, the greater probability there is that these requisites will be found. The Convention therefore, on the maturest deliberation, have thought it best to lodge this power in the hands of *one*, whom they have stiled the GOVERNOR. They have indeed clothed him with the necessary powers, while every possible provision is made to guard against the abuse of this high betrustment, and protect the rights of the people.—The manner of his choice is such, that he is the most perfect representative of the people. He can take no one step of importance without the advice of his privy Council; and he is elected annually. Every necessary and useful qualification is required in him, in point of age, religion, residency, and fortune. In addition to all which, he is liable for every misconduct to be impeached, tried and displaced, by the two legislative branches; and is amenable to the laws besides, equally with the meanest subject of the State. Thus controlled and checked himself, the Convention thought it reasonable and necessary, that he, in turn, should have some check on the legislative power. They therefore gave him the right of objecting to, and suspending, tho' not the absolute control over the acts of that body; which they thought indispensably necessary to repel any encroachments on the executive-power, and preserve its independency.

As the strength and safety of this State will greatly depend on the keeping up a well regulated militia, we have been particularly attentive to this important object; and after the most mature deliberation have adopted a mode for the appointment of militia officers, which we flatter ourselves will receive your approbation. Experience has sufficiently convinced the Americans in general, and some of our neighbouring States in particular, of the ill consequence, resulting from the method adopted in their Constitutions of the Captains and Subalterns being chosen by the soldiers, and the field officers by the Captains and Subalterns. This not only renders every superior officer dependent on his inferior, but opens a dangerous avenue to division, discord and animosity in every corps; where the election of an officer is not unanimous, which cannot be always rationally expected, indolent and unqualified persons, who know how to gain an ascendancy over the minds of the soldiers, by art, and address, will probably be preferred to those who by a strict attention to the duties of their office, would render the militia respectable in the minds of our friends, and formidable in the eyes of our enemies.

AT the commencement of the present war with Great-Britain, the want of experience necessarily induced many, if not all the States, to adopt this mode of appointing their officers to serve in the Continental army, which method would have continued to this day, if experience had not sufficiently demonstrated, that subordination, harmony, and regular discipline, could not exist, where such appointments were tolerated.

To avoid these, and many other evils, too tedious to enumerate, we have vested the Governor & Council, with the power of appointing the General and field-officers; and have given the field-officers the power of nominating their Captains and Subalterns.

PERSONS qualified to fill the important posts of General and field-officers, will undoubtedly be sufficiently known in the State; and a

knowledge of their talents may be acquired by the Governor and Council, without that difficulty, which would attend an examination, respecting the abilities of persons qualified to serve as Captains and Subalterns.

THE Governor and Council will have every inducement to be particular in the appointment of proper persons, as General & field officers, & the field officers must feel their honor too nearly concerned, in the nomination of their under officers, to recommend any, without first availing themselves of every necessary information and advice. We have been thus particular upon this head on account of its great importance to the State, our own observations, and the opinion of every person versed in the art of war, concur in persuading us, that our safety, and yours, as well as that of unborn posterity, will depend upon your rejecting the ill-judged method of electing officers by the voice of tumult, dissention, and party spirit, and adopting the natural, and rational mode of appointment which we recommend.

THE judicial department falls next under our consideration.

THIS comprehends the Judges of the several courts, and the Justices of the peace throughout the State. These are all appointed by the Governor, with the advice of Council, but not removable by him in case of mal-conduct, but by the Legislature—and in no case without the intervention of that body.

THE Judges all hold their offices during good behaviour; the only proper tenure, especially for the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, as they ought, in a peculiar manner, to feel themselves independent and free, and as none would be at the pains to qualify themselves for such important places, if they were liable to be removed at pleasure. As another inducement for persons so to qualify themselves, as an encouragement to vigilance, and an antidote to bribery and corruption; adequate, honorable, and permanent salaries to the Judges of the Supreme Court in a particular manner, we have made assential in the Constitution, and do now most strongly recommend.

THE alteration of Justices commissions from life, to five years, is to guard against age, incapacity, and too large a number; to secure the appointment of the best; and to prevent too frequent addresses and impeachments. You will judge of the propriety and expediency of this innovation, and either give it your sanction or not as appears to you best.

THE reasons for the EXCLUSION-BILL, are too obvious to need pointing out. Sad experience has evinced the necessity of such provision. Besides the interference of several offices held by the same person, in point of *time*, which we have often *seen*; and the difficulty of one man's giving his attention to many matters sufficiently to understand them all, which we have too often *felt*; there is a still stronger reason, which is the difficulty of a man's preserving his integrity in discharging the duties of each unstained—at least by suspicion.

FROM the deepest impression of the vast importance of LITERATURE in a free government, we have interwoven it with, and made its protection and encouragement a part of the Constitution itself.

THE BILL OF RIGHTS contains the essential principles of the Constitution. It is the foundation on which the whole political fabric is reared, and is consequently, a most important part thereof.

WE have endeavor'd therein to ascertain and define the most important and essential natural rights of men. We have distinguished betwixt the alienable and unalienable rights: For the former of which, men may receive an equivalent; for the latter, or the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE, they can receive none: The world itself being wholly inade-

quate to the purchase. "*For what is a man profited, though he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*"

THE various modes of worship among mankind, are founded in their various sentiments and beliefs concerning the GREAT OBJECT of all religious worship and adoration,—therefore to HIM alone, and not to man, are they accountable for them.

THUS the Convention have endeavored to explain as particularly as they could without trespassing on your patience, the reasons and principles upon which they have laboured to form this Constitution. They have done it in integrity and faithfulness. They conceived themselves as part of the community for which the Constitution is intended, and therefore equally interested with the other members in framing the best. Whatever latent defects there may be in it, time will discover them—and, at the end of seven years, provision is made that they may be amended—Confiding therefore in your candour, and humbly imploring on your behalf, that assistance which the fountain of wisdom sees you need, we leave it in your hands, and wait with cheerful acquiescence, your decision.

In this name, and pursuant to a Resolution of the Convention.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, *Secretary P. T.*

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

THE BILL OF RIGHTS, included in this second Constitution, is word for word exactly like that sent out with the first (and hence need not be repeated)—except in the following articles, which readers will please notice;—the difference being marked by parallel lines, thus ||.

ARTICLE XVI. No subject shall be liable to be tried after an acquittal, for ||the same crime or offence.|| Nor shall the Legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment,—excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service,—without trial by Jury.

ARTICLE XVII. In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than where it is committed; ||except in cases of a general insurrection in any particular county, where it shall appear to the Judges of the Superior Court. that an impartial trial cannot be had in the county where the offence may be committed, and upon their report, the Assembly shall think proper to direct the trial in the nearest county where an impartial trial can be obtained.||

ARTICLE XX. [The last line.] the Legislature shall ||think|| it necessary hereafter to alter it.

ARTICLE XXXVI. Economy being a most essential virtue in all States, ||more especially in a young one, no person ought to receive any stipend or salary, but as an equivalent for actual services; and the Legislature ought to be exceeding cautious of granting pensions, especially for life.||

A CONSTITUTION OR FORM OF GOVERNMENT

FOR THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

PART II.

THE People inhabiting the Territory formerly called the Province of *New-Hampshire*, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent Body-politic or State, by the Name of the STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE GENERAL COURT.

THE Supreme Legislative power within this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

THE Senate and House shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of *June*, and at such other times as they may judge necessary, and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday in *June*; and shall be stiled THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

No bill or resolve of the Senate or House of Representatives shall become a law, and have force as such, until it shall have been laid before the Governor for his revisal: And if he, upon such revision, approve thereof, he shall signify his approbation by signing the same.— But if he has any objection to the passing of such bill or resolve, he shall return the same, together with his objections thereto, in writing, to the Senate or House of Representatives, in which soever the same shall have originated: who shall enter the objections sent down by the Governor, at large, on their records, and proceed to reconsider the said bill or resolve: But if upon such reconsideration, three quarters of the said Senate or House of Representatives, shall notwithstanding the said objections, agree to pass the same, it shall, together with the objections, be sent to the other branch of the Legislature, where it shall be also reconsidered, and if approved by three quarters of the members present, it shall have the force of law: But in all such cases, the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays; and the names of the persons voting for, or against, the said bill or resolve, shall be entered upon the public records of the State.

And in order to prevent unnecessary delays, if any bill or resolve having been presented to the Governor, shall not be returned by him within the next eight days of the sitting of the General-Assembly, at the same session; or if it shall not so long continue, then on the second day of their next session, the same shall have the force of a law.

THE General Court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the State, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, complaints, actions, causes, matters, and things, whatsoever; arising, or happening within this State, or between or concerning persons inhabiting, or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital, or not capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixt; and for the awarding and issuing execution thereon. To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and authority, from time to time, to administer

oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

AND farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said General Court, from time to time, to make, ordain, and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions and instructions, either with penalties or without: so as the same be not repugnant, or contrary to this Constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this State, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this State; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom, are hereafter in this form of government otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers, and limits, of the several civil and military officers of this State, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution for their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this Constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said State; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the Governor of this State for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the Government of this State, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are, or shall be in force within the same.

AND while the public charges of government or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has heretofore been practised; in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the State taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the General Court shall order.

SENATE.

THERE shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this State, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, twelve persons to be Senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this State may from time to time be divided by the General Court for that purpose: And the General Court, in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts: and timely make known to the inhabitants of the State, the limits of each district, and the number of Senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five.

AND the several Counties in this State, shall, until the General Court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of Senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

Rockingham, five.

Strafford, two.

Hillsborough, two.

Cheshire, two.

Grafton, one.

THE Senate shall be the first branch of the Legislature: And the Senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. Every male inhabitant of each Town and Parish with town privileges in the several Counties in this State, of twenty one years of age and upwards, paying

for himself a poll tax, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said Towns and Parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of *March*; to vote in the Town or Parish wherein he dwells, for the Senators in the County or district whereof he is a member.

AND every person qualified as the Constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this State, in that Town, Parish and Plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

THE Selectmen of the several Towns and Parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of Senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such Towns and Parishes present and qualified to vote for Senators, and shall sort and count the same in meeting, and in presence of the Town Clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the Selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the Selectmen and Town Clerk, and shall be sealed up and directed to the Secretary of the State, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by said Clerk to the Sheriff of the County in which such Town or Parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of *June*; and the Sheriff of each County or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received into the Secretary's office, seventeen days at least, before the first Wednesday of *June*.

And the inhabitants of plantations and places unincorporated, qualified as this Constitution provides, who are or shall be required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor, shall have the same privilege of voting for Senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective Towns and Parishes aforesaid have. And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose shall be holden annually in the month of *March*, at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the votes, as the Selectmen and Town Clerks have in their several Towns by this Constitution.

AND, that there may be a due meeting of Senators on the first Wednesday of *June*, annually, the Governor and three of the Council for the time being, shall as soon as may be, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of *June*, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen Senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: Provided, nevertheless, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the President and five of the Council of the former Constitution of government; and the said President shall in like manner notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

THE Senate shall be final judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, as pointed out in this Constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of *June* annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be Senators by a majority of votes: And in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. the members of the house of Representatives and such Senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of Senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and

out of these shall elect by joint ballot the number of Senators wanted for such district: And in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the State, and in like manner all vacancies in the Senate, arising by death, removal out of the State, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be, after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capable of being elected a Senator, who is not of the Protestant Religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of *two hundred Pounds*, lying within this State, who is not of the age of thirty years, and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years immediately preceding his election, and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

THE Senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

THE Senate shall choose its own President, appoint its own officers, and determine its own rules of proceedings. And not less than seven members of the Senate shall make a quorum for doing business. Provided, that when less than eight Senators shall be present, the assent of five at least shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

THE Senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the House of Representatives, against any officer or officers of the State, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the Senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend farther than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this State; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to the laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THERE shall be in the Legislature of this State a representation of the people annually elected and founded upon principles of equality: And in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every Town, Parish or place intitled to town privileges, having one hundred and fifty rateable male polls, of twenty one years of age, and upwards, may elect one representative; if four hundred and fifty rateable polls, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding in that proportion, making three hundred such rateable polls the mean increasing number, for every additional representative.

THAT such Towns, Parishes or places as have less than one hundred and fifty rateable polls shall be classed by the General Assembly for the purpose of chusing a representative, and seasonably notified thereof. And that in every class formed for the above mentioned purpose, the first annual meeting shall be held in the Town, Parish, or place wherein most of the rateable polls reside; and afterwards in that which has the next highest number, and so on annually by rotation, through the several Towns, Parishes or places, forming the district.

THAT whenever any Town, Parish, or place intitled to town privileges as aforesaid, shall not have one hundred and fifty rateable polls, and be so situated as to render the classing thereof with any other Town, Parish, or place very inconvenient, the General Assembly may upon application of a majority of the voters in such Town, Parish, or place, issue a writ for their electing and sending a representative to the General Court.

THE members of the house of representatives shall be chosen annu-

ally in the month of *March*, and shall be the second branch of the Legislature.

ALL persons qualified to vote in the election of Senators shall be entitled to vote within the Town, District, Parish, or place, where they dwell, in the choice of representatives. Every member of the house of representatives shall be chosen by ballot; and for two years at least next preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of this State, shall have an estate within the Town, Parish, or place which he may be chosen to represent, of the value of *one hundred pounds*, one half of which to be a freehold, whereof he is seized in his own right; shall be at the time of his election an inhabitant of the Town, Parish, or place he may be chosen to represent; shall be of the Protestant Religion, and shall cease to represent such Town, Parish, or place immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

THE travel of each representative to the General Assembly, and returning home, once in every session, and no more, shall be at the expence of the State, and the wages for his attendance, at the expence of the Town, Parish, or places he represents; such members attending seasonably and not departing without licence. All intermediate vacancies in the House of Representatives, may be filled up from time to time, in the same manner as annual elections are made.

THE House of Representatives shall be the grand inquest of the State, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the Senate.

ALL money bills shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

THE House of Representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but not longer than two days at a time.

THAT a majority of the members of the House of Representatives shall be a quorum for doing business: Provided, that when less than two thirds of the representatives elected shall be present, the assent of two thirds of the members shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

No member of the House of Representatives, or Senate shall be arrested or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the Court.

THE House of Representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, and settle the rules of proceedings in their own house. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behavior, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any of its members during his attendance at any session, in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness, or other person, ordered to attend by and during his attendance of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The Senate, Governor, and Council shall have the same powers in like cases; provided that no imprisonment by either for any offence, exceed ten days.

The Journals of the proceedings of both houses of the General Court, shall be printed and published, immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

GOVERNOR.

THERE shall be a supreme executive Magistrate, who shall be stiled, THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE; and whose TITLE shall be His EXCELLENCY.

THE Governor shall be chosen annually; and no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this State for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years; and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of *five hundred Pounds*, one half or which shall consist of a freehold in his own right, within the State; and unless he shall be of the Protestant Religion.

THOSE persons qualified to vote for Senators and Representatives, shall within the several Towns, Parishes, or Places, wherein they dwell, at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of *March* annually, give in their votes for a Governor to the Selectmen, who shall preside at such meeting, and the Clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the Selectmen, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books, and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants, seal up a copy of said list attested by him and the Selectmen, and transmit the same to the Sheriff of the County, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of *June*, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the Secretary of the State, seventeen days at least, before said day, who shall lay the same before the Senate and House of Representatives on the first Wednesday of *June*, to be by them examined: And in case of an election by a majority of votes through the State, the choice shall be by them declared, and published; but if no person shall have a majority of votes, the House of Representatives shall by ballot elect two out of the four persons who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the Senate of the two persons so elected, on which the Senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them, who shall be declared GOVERNOR.

THE Governor, with advice of Council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the General-Court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said Court; and during the session of said Court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire, and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned, or prorogued, if the welfare of the State should require the same.

IN cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the Governor, with advice of Council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the General Court, not exceeding ninety days at any one time, as he may determine the public good may require. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of *June*. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said Court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths or lives, of the members from their attendance, the Governor may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the State.

The Governor of this State for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the State, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief

commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this State, to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this State; and 'also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means, all and every such person and persons as shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this State; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law-martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the Legislature to exist, as occasion shall necessarily require: And surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this State: And in fine, that the Governor be, and hereby is entrusted with all other powers incident to the office of captain-general and commander in chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the Constitution, and the laws of the land. Provided, that the Governor shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this Constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the Legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this State, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the General Court, nor grant commissions for exercising the law-martial in any case, without the advice and consent of the Council.

THE power of pardoning of offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the Senate by the impeachment of the house, shall be in the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council: But no charter of pardon granted by the Governor, with advice of Council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

All Judicial officers, the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, all Sheriffs, Coroners, Registers of Probate, and all officers of the navy, and general and field officers of the militia, shall be nominated and appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council: and every such nomination shall be made by the Governor at least seven days prior to such appointment. The Captains and Subalterns in the respective regiments shall be nominated and recommended by the field officers to the Governor, who is to issue their commissions immediately on receipt of such recommendation.

No officer, duly commissioned to command in the militia shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the State for the time being.

THE commanding officers of the regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade-majors; the major generals their aids; the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers.

THE Governor, with advice of Council, shall appoint all officers of the Continental army, whom by the confederation of the UNITED STATES it is provided that this State shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

THE division of the militia into brigades, regiments and companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this State, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this State, and disposed of, (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurers notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the Governor for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, for the necessary support and defence of this State, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the General Court.

ALL public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this State, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the Governor, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon with their appendages, and small arms with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: And the commanding officer shall exhibit to the Governor when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land, and sea or harbor or harbors adjacent.

AND as the public good requires, that the Governor should not be under the undue influence of any members of the two houses, by a dependence on them for his support; that he should in all cases act with freedom for the benefit of the public; that he should not have his attention necessarily diverted from that object to his private concerns; and that he should maintain the dignity of the State in the character of its Chief Magistrate; it is necessary that he should have an honorable salary amply sufficient for those purposes, granted him at the first meeting of the Assembly annually.

PERMANENT and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the Justices of the Superior Court.

WHENEVER the chair of the Governor shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the State, or otherwise, the President of the Senate, for the time being, shall during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this Constitution the Governor is vested with when personally present; and whenever the President shall fill the chair, he shall have no voice in the Senate.

COUNCIL.

THERE shall be a Council for advising the Governor in the Executive part of Government, to consist of five persons, whom the Governor for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the Governor, with the Counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may from time to time hold and keep a Council, for ordering and directing the affairs of the State, according to the laws of the land.

FIVE Counsellors shall be annually chosen from among the people at large, on the first Wednesday of *June* annually, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in one room assembled. The qualifications for Counsellors, shall be the same as those required for Senators.

THE resolutions and advice of the Council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and this record may be called for at any time, by either house of the Legislature, and any member of the Council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

AND whereas the elections appointed to be made by this Constitution on the first Wednesday of *June* annually, by the two houses of the Legislature, may not be completed on that day, the said elections may

be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows: the vacancies in the Senate, if any, shall be first filled up; the Governor shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people; And afterwards the two houses shall proceed to the election of the Council.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &c.

THE Secretary, Treasurer, and Commissary-General, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives assembled in one room.

THE records of the State shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the Governor and Council, the Senate and Representatives, in person or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &c.

THE County-Treasurers, and Registers of deeds, shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several Counties in the State, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the State: And before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the County, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

THE tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this Constitution: *Provided nevertheless*, the Governor, with consent of Council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the Legislature.

EACH branch of the Legislature, as well as the Governor and Council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the Superior Court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

IN order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall expire and become void, in the term of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the State.

THE judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts at such place or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the Legislature shall from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments the said Courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

ALL causes of marriage, divorce and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the Superior Court, until the Legislature shall, by law make other provision.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

THE Clerks of the Superior Court of Judicature, Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, and General Sessions of the Peace, shall be appointed

by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said Courts, no such Clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the Court of which he is Clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES to CONGRESS.

THE Delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, shall some time between the first Wednesday of *June*, and the first Wednesday of *September* annually, be elected by the Senate and House of Representatives in their separate branches; to serve in Congress for one year, to commence on the first Monday of *November* then next ensuing. They shall have commissions under the hand of the Governor, and the great seal of the State; but may be recalled at any time within the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead: And they shall have the same qualifications, in all respects, as by this Constitution are required for the Governor.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT of LITERATURE, &c.

KNOWLEDGE, and Learning, generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government, and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the Legislators and magistrates, in all future periods of this government, to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and æconomy, honesty and punctuality, sincerity, sobriety and all social affections, and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATH and SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION from OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION of LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; the ENACTING STILE; CONTINUANCE of OFFICERS; PROVISION for a future REVISION of the CONSTITUTION, &c.

ANY person chosen Governor, Counsellor, Senator or Representatives, military and civil officers (Town officers excepted,) accepting the trust, shall before he or they proceed to execute the duties of his or their office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the State of New Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign, and independent State; and do swear that I will bear faith and true allegiance to the same, and that I will endeavour to defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever: And I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession,

testimony, and declaration, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatever.

So help me GOD.

I, A. B. do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Constitution, and the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

So help me GOD.

Provided always, When any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called Quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oaths, such shall take and subscribe them, omitting the word "*swear*" and likewise the words "*So help me God.*" subjoining instead thereof, *This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury.*

AND the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the Governor, before the President of the Senate in the presence of the two Houses of Assembly; and by the Senate and Representatives first elected under this Constitution, before the President and three of the Council of the former Constitution, and forever afterwards, before the Governor and Council for the time being; and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the Legislature.

ALL commissions shall be in the name of the State of New-Hampshire, signed by the Governor, and attested by the Secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the State affixed thereto.

ALL writs issuing out of the Clerk's office in any of the Courts of law, shall be in the name of the State of New Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the Court whence they issue, and bear test of the chief, first, or senior Justice of the Court; but when such Justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other Justice of the Court, to which the same shall be returnable, and be signed by the Clerk of such Court.

ALL indictments, presentments and informations shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the State.

THE estate of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not, for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such persons had died in a natural way. Nor shall any article, which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

ALL the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used and approved, in the Province, Colony, or State of New-Hampshire, and usually practised on in the Courts of law, shall still remain and be in full force, until altered and repealed by the Legislature; such parts thereof only excepted, as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this Constitution.—Provided that nothing herein contained, when compared with the twenty third article in the bill of rights, shall be construed to effect the laws already made respecting the persons, or estates of absentees.

THE privilege and benefit of the Habeas Corpus, shall be enjoyed in this State, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the Legislature, except upon

the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

THE enacting stile in making and passing acts, statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened.*

No Governor, or Judge of the Superior Court, shall hold any office or place, under the authority of this State, except such as by this Constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the Judges of the said Court may hold the offices of Justice throughout the State; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other State, Government or Power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this State, viz. Judge of Probate, Sheriff, Register of deeds; and never more than two offices of profit which may be held by appointment of the Governor, or Governor and Council, or Senate and House of Representatives, or Superior or Inferior Courts; military offices and offices of Justices of the Peace excepted.

No person holding the office of Judge of the Superior Court, Secretary, Treasurer of the State, Judge of Probate, Attorney-General, Commissary-General, Judge of the Maritime Court, or Judge of the Court of Admiralty, military Officers receiving pay from the Continent or this State, excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency, Judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, Register of deeds, President, Professor or Instructor of any College, Sheriff, or officer of the customs, including Naval Officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the Senate or House of Representatives, or Council; but their being chosen or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of their seat in the Senate, or House of Representatives or Council, and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a Seat in the Legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this Government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election or appointment.

In all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this Constitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver at *six shillings and eight pence* per ounce.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this State from a change of the form of Government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the Government and People of New Hampshire, and other officers of the said Government and People, at the time this Constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All Courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the Executive and Legislative Bodies and Persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the General Court and the Supreme and other Executive officers under this Constitution, are designated and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

THIS form of Government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the Secretary's office. and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this State, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the Constitution, and to correct any violations thereof, as well as to make such alterations therein; as from experience may be found necessary, the

General Court shall at the expiration of seven years from the time this Constitution shall take effect, issue precepts, or direct them to be issued from the Secretary's office, to the several Towns and incorporated Places, to elect delegates to meet in Convention for the purpose aforesaid: The said delegates to be chosen in the same manner and proportion'd as the Representatives to the General Assembly. Provided that no alteration shall be made in this Constitution before the same shall be laid before the Towns and unincorporated Places, and approved by two thirds of the qualified voters present, and voting upon the question.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, Secretary P. T.

IN CONVENTION, August 21, 1782.

RESOLVED, that this Convention be adjourned to the last Tuesday of December next, to meet at Concord; and that eight hundred copies of the Plan of Government, which is agreed upon, to be printed, including such as shall be ordered to each member of the General-Court, and of the Convention, be sent to the selectmen of each town, and assessors of each plantation, under the direction of the Committee appointed for that purpose: And that the selectmen and assessors be requested as soon as may be, to lay the same before the inhabitants of their respective towns & plantations. And if any part of the inhabitants of said towns and plantations disapprove of any particular part of the same, that they be desired to state their objections distinctly and the reasons therefor. And the selectmen and assessors are desired to transmit the same to the Convention on the last Tuesday of December aforesaid, or to the Secretary of the Convention before then, in order for the revision and consideration of the Convention at the adjournment; with the number of voters in said towns and plantations meetings, on each side of the question: That the Convention may be able to collect the general sense of the people of this State on the several parts of the proposed Constitution: And if there should not appear to be two thirds of the people in favor thereof, that the Convention may alter it in such manner as may be most agreeable to the sentiments of two thirds of the voters throughout the State.

GEORGE ATKINSON, President.

Attest, JOHN SULLIVAN, Secretary, P. T.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

Agreeably to adjournment, the Convention met in Concord, the last Tuesday in Decr, 1782; and found that the second Constitution was rejected. They then adjourned to meet in Concord the first Tuesday in June, 1783; when they met and agreed upon a third form for a Constitution, which, as before, was sent out to the people for their ratification or rejection. The Convention then adjourned to October 31st, 1783, (1)

(1) See N. H. Reg. 1853, p. 26. The whole time from the beginning of the first Convention, June 5, 1781, to the declaration of the Constitution, Oct. 31, 1783, was two years, four months, and twenty-six days,—with seven sessions. Ed.

and met accordingly. On examination of the votes returned for and against the said *third* Constitution, they found it was *accepted* by the people.

*In order to facilitate a comparison of the Constitution finally adopted with the first and second which were rejected; and to enable persons who have not other means of information on the subject, to trace the process and progress in the "task" of forming a Constitution which the people approved and accepted; the Editor, with advice, has judged it expedient to print the whole Constitution, with the Bill of Rights entire, as the closing matter of this Volume—venturing to submit his opinion, in the form of a Note, on the first and second articles of said Bill, touching the application of the principles therein to the subject of Slavery in New Hampshire.

A CONSTITUTION,

CONTAINING A BILL OF RIGHTS, AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT,

Agreed upon by the Delegates of the people of the State of New-Hampshire, in Convention, held at Concord, on the first Tuesday of June, 1783; submitted to, and approved of, by the people of said State; and established by their Delegates in Convention, October 31, 1783.

PART I.

The Bill of Rights.

ARTICLE I.

ALL men are born equally free and independent; therefore, all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.

II. All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights; among which are—the enjoying and defending life and liberty—acquiring, possessing and protecting property—and in a word, of seeking and obtaining happiness.*

* The Editor respectfully submits the opinion, that the first and second Articles in this BILL OF RIGHTS virtually, and in effect, abolished slavery as it existed in New Hampshire. This is evident from the following considerations and facts:

(1) As preliminary, it should be understood that slavery was never *legalized* in New Hampshire, *i. e.* never established by authority of law; but as it existed in other Colonies, it gradually crept in and was tolerated and regulated from time to time, here; so that Indian and negro servants or slaves were owned and held as property.—Laws of N. H. 1771, pp. 52, 53, 101; Prov. Pap. Vol. IV. pp. 245, 301, 305, 497, 499.

(2) Whether the first and second articles in the Bill of Rights, were originally *designed* to abolish slavery, and were voted on and adopted by the people generally with that understanding, may be a question;

III. When men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society, in order to in-

but that this was the effect of their adoption cannot be doubted, for the following reasons, viz.:

1. According to the census of New Hampshire taken in 1767, the number of "slaves" in the Province was 633; according to the census of 1775, the number of "negroes & slaves for life" was 657.—See Prov. Pap. N. H. Vol. VII. pp. 163-170 and 724-780; Comp. Coll. N. H. Hist. Soc. Vol. I. pp. 231-235. By the U. S. census, 1790, only six years after the adoption of the State Constitution, the number of "SLAVES" in New Hampshire was returned as 158; but by the census of 1800, only 8; of 1810, 0; of 1820, 0; in 1830, 3 were returned; in 1840, 1; since which, none has been returned. The proper explanation of these incompatible returns, the Editor conceives to be: That although by the State Constitution adopted in 1784, slavery was in fact terminated, and a very large proportion of those held as slaves availed themselves of their liberty, or were discharged; yet as a portion of them still remained in the families where they had lived, and perhaps did not desire a change; they were inadvertently reckoned by the census-takers, under the head of "Slaves"; no discrimination being made in regard to their condition, though in reality free. No other supposition can explain the inconsistency of the census returns at different periods: that is, 158 "slaves," in 1790; 8, in 1800; 0, in 1810 and 1820. We cannot suppose that in the first decade, 150 slaves died, or otherwise changed their condition, leaving only 8, in 1800; and that of these, not one was left in 1810 and 1820, and yet there were 3 in 1830, and 1 in 1840.

2. But a still higher proof that the Bill of Rights abolished slavery, is found in the fact that previous and up to the adoption of the constitution, slaves had been for many years rated and taxed to their owners as horses, oxen and other kinds of property were taxed. See this point fully confirmed in Prov. Papers N. H., Vol. IV. pp. 301, 305, 497; Vol. VI. p. 175; Vol. VII. p. 143; Vol. VIII. pp. 849 and 966. This practice of assessing and taxing slaves, it is conceded, extended even a few years beyond 1784. But the reason or explanation of this is wholly consistent with the fact which we allege as to its proper termination: the explanation is this: That previous to the adoption of the constitution, preliminary steps were taken, Feb. 21, 1783, for a new proportion and inventory of all ratable estate, for taxation: A committee was appointed to prepare and bring in a bill for that purpose; which however was not completed, reported and passed till the June session, 1784. That bill like former ones included a tax "on male and female negroes and mulatto servants from 16 to 45 years of age;" this act continued in force until a new proportion was made, Feb. 3, 1789. See Prov. Pap. N. H., Vol. VIII. p. 966; also MS. Acts 1780-1784, pp. 562-572, in Secretary's office, and printed Journals of the House, 1783-9, in library of the N. H. Hist. Soc.; during which period, some who remained in families as servants were taxed to their owners—at least it so appears from town rates, as paid in Portsmouth, Dover and other places.

3. But as conclusive and final proof on this subject, it appears that when a new proportion was proposed at the fall session, 1788, on the 30th December, "The House took under consideration the Act for establishing an equitable method of making taxes," &c. and "after considerable debate, Voted, That polls in the said proportion be estimated at ten shillings (*male and female servants expunged*) horses and oxen four years old and upwards, at three shillings," &c. This vote was concurred by the Senate, and when the Bill was finally passed,

sure the protection of others; and, without such an equivalent, the surrender is void.

IV. Among the natural rights, some are in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE.

V. Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship GOD according to the dictates of his own conscience and reason; and no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty or estate for worshipping GOD, in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience, or for his religious profession, sentiments or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace, or disturb others in their religious worship.

VI. As morality and piety, rightly grounded on evangelical principles, will give the best and greatest security to government, and will lay in the hearts of men the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these, is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the DEITY, and of public instruction in morality and religion; therefore, to promote those important purposes, the people of this state have a right to empower, and do hereby fully empower the legislature to authorize from time to time, the several towns, parishes, bodies-corporate, or religious societies within this state, to make adequate provision at their own expence, for the support and maintenance of public Protestant teachers of piety, religion and morality:

Provided notwithstanding, That the several towns, parishes,

Feb. 8, 1789, and received the consent and signature of the governor, slaves ceased to be known and held as property in New Hampshire. No after legislation recognized the existence of slavery. The institution was dead.

In this conclusion, the Editor is happy to have the opinion of the Hon. CHARLES DOE, late judge in our Superior Court, who says, in a letter, Dec. 6, 1875: "It seems to me that a statement of the two facts that slaves were included in the Act of 1784, and were by an erasure of the MS. omitted in the Act of 1789—*intentionally* omitted—and the third fact, that they were taxed as property to their masters for several years under the Act of 1784, and probably every year until the Act of 1789; will throw more light on the *intention* of New Hampshire to abolish slavery, than anything else there is in print: That expunging of 'male and female servants' in the MS. of 1789, seems to me very significant as showing an *intention* to treat slavery as a dead institution."

4. With the above statements and facts, it is manifest, that Dr. Belknap was mistaken in the opinion which he seemed to favor, that the Bill of Rights had only the effect to give freedom to those who should be *born after the adoption of the constitution*. [See Belk. Hist. N. H., Vol. 3, pp. 211, 212. 1812.]

For facts in illustration and confirmation of the foregoing opinion, see Bouton's Hist. of Concord, pp. 250-254.

bodies-corporate, or religious societies, shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers, and of contracting with them for their support and maintenance. And no person of any one particular religious sect or denomination, shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect or denomination.

And every denomination of christians demeaning themselves quietly, and as good subjects of the state, shall be equally under the protection of the law: and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another, shall ever be established by law.

And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry; but all such contracts shall remain, and be in the same state as if this constitution had not been made.

VII. The people of this state, have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent state, and do, and forever hereafter shall, exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction and right pertaining thereto, which is not, or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled.

VIII. All power residing originally in, and being derived from the people, all the magistrates and officers of government, are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them.

IX. No office or place whatsoever in government, shall be hereditary—the abilities and integrity requisite in all, not being transmissible to posterity or relations.

X. Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family or class of men; therefore, whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

XI. All elections ought to be free, and every inhabitant of the state having the proper qualifications, has equal right to elect, and be elected into office.

XII. Every member of the community has a right to be protected by it in the enjoyment of his life, liberty and property; he is therefore bound to contribute his share in the expence of such protection, and to yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent. But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own

consent, or that of the representative body of the people. Nor are the inhabitants of this state controllable by any other laws than those to which they or their representative body have given their consent.

XIII. No person who is conscientiously scrupulous about the lawfulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto, provided he will pay an equivalent.

XIV. Every subject of this state is entitled to a certain remedy, by having recourse to the laws, for all injuries he may receive in his person, property or character, to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it; completely, and without any denial; promptly, and without delay, conformably to the laws.

XV. No subject shall be held to answer for any crime, or offence, until the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himself. And every subject shall have a right to produce all proofs that may be favorable to himself; to meet the witnesses against him face to face, and to be fully heard in his defence by himself, and counsel. And no subject shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities, or privileges, put out of the protection of the law, exiled or deprived of his life, liberty, or estate, but by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

XVI. No subject shall be liable to be tried, after an acquittal, for the same crime or offence.--Nor shall the legislature make any law that shall subject any person to a capital punishment, excepting for the government of the army and navy, and the militia in actual service, without trial by jury.

XVII. In criminal prosecutions, the trial of facts in the vicinity where they happen, is so essential to the security of the life, liberty and estate of the citizen, that no crime or offence ought to be tried in any other county than that in which it is committed; except in cases of general insurrection in any particular county, when it shall appear to the Judges of the Superior Court, that an impartial trial cannot be had in the county where the offence may be committed, and upon their report the assembly shall think proper to direct the trial in the nearest county in which an impartial trial can be obtained.

XVIII. All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offence. No wise legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery and the like, which they do to those of murder and treason; where the same undistinguishing severity is exerted against all offences, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do those of the lightest dye: For the same reason a multitude

of sanguinary laws is both impolitic and unjust. The true design of all punishments being to reform, not to exterminate, mankind.

XIX. Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. All warrants, therefore, are contrary to this right, if the cause or foundation of them be not previously supported by oath, or affirmation; and if the order in the warrant to a civil officer, to make search in suspected places, or to arrest one or more suspected persons, or to seize their property, be not accompanied with a special designation of the persons or objects of search, arrest, or seizure; and no warrant ought to be issued but in cases, and with the formalities prescribed by the laws.

XX. In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons, except in cases in which it has been heretofore otherwise used and practised, the parties have a right to a trial by jury; and this method of procedure shall be held sacred, unless in causes arising on the high seas, and such as relate to mariners wages, the legislature shall think it necessary hereafter to alter it.

XXI. In order to reap the fullest advantage of the inestimable privilege of the trial by jury, great care ought to be taken that none but qualified persons should be appointed to serve; and such ought to be fully compensated for their travel, time and attendance.

XXII. The Liberty of the Press is essential to the security of freedom in a state; it ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.

XXIII. Retrospective laws are highly injurious, oppressive and unjust. No such laws, therefore, should be made, either for the decision of civil causes, or the punishment of offences.

XXIV. A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defence of a state.

XXV. Standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without the consent of the legislature.

XXVI. In all cases, and at all times, the military ought to be under strict subordination to, and governed by the civil power.

XXVII. No soldier in time of peace, shall be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; and in time of war, such quarters ought not to be made but by the civil magistrate, in a manner ordained by the legislature.

XXVIII. No subsidy, charge, tax, impost or duty shall be established, fixed, laid or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people or their representatives in the legislature, or authority derived from that body.

XXIX. The power of suspending the laws, or the execution of them, ought never to be exercised but by the legislature, or by authority derived therefrom, to be exercised in such particular cases only as the legislature shall expressly provide for.

XXX. The freedom of deliberation, speech, and debate, in either house of the legislature, is so essential to the rights of the people, that it cannot be the foundation of any action, complaint, or prosecution, in any other court or place whatsoever.

XXXI. The legislature ought frequently to assemble for the redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening, and confirming the laws, and for making new ones, as the common good may require.

XXXII. The people have a right in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble and consult upon the common good, give instructions to their representatives; and to request of the legislative body, by way of petition or remonstrance, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer.

XXXIII. No magistrate or court of law shall demand excessive bail or sureties, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel or unusual punishments.

XXXIV. No person can in any case be subjected to law martial, or to any pains, or penalties, by virtue of that law, except those employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service, but by authority of the legislature.

XXXV. It is essential to the preservation of the rights of every individual, his life, liberty, property and character, that there be an impartial interpretation of the laws, and administration of justice. It is the right of every citizen to be tried by judges as impartial as the lot of humanity will admit. It is therefore not only the best policy, but for the security of the rights of the people, that the judges of the supreme (or superior) judicial court should hold their offices so long as they behave well; and that they should have honorable salaries, ascertained and established by standing laws.

XXXVI. Economy being a most essential virtue in all states, especially in a young one; no pension shall be granted, but in consideration of actual services, and such pensions ought to be granted with great caution, by the legislature, and never for more than one year at a time.

XXXVII. In the government of this state, the three essential powers thereof, to wit, the legislative, executive and judicial, ought to be kept as separate from and independent of each other, as the nature of a free government will admit, or as is consistent with that chain of connection that binds the whole fabric of the constitution in one indissoluble bond of union and amity.

XXXVIII. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental prin-

ciples of the Constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government; the people ought, therefore, to have a peculiar regard to all those principles in the choice of their officers and representatives: and they have a right to require of their law-givers and magistrates, an exact and constant observance of them in the formation and execution of the laws necessary for the good administration of government.

PART II.

THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

THE people inhabiting the territory formerly called the Province of New-Hampshire, do hereby solemnly and mutually agree with each other, to form themselves into a free, sovereign, and independent Body-politic, or State, by the name of the STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE GENERAL COURT.

THE supreme legislative power within this state shall be vested in the senate and house of representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other.

THE senate and house shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday of June; and at such other times as they may judge necessary; and shall dissolve, and be dissolved, seven days next preceding the said first Wednesday of June; and shall be stiled THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

THE general court shall forever have full power and authority to erect and constitute judicatories and courts of record, or other courts, to be holden in the name of the state, for the hearing, trying, and determining all manner of crimes, offences, pleas, processes, complaints, actions, causes, matters and things whatsoever, arising or happening within this state, or between or concerning persons inhabiting or residing, or brought within the same, whether the same be criminal or civil, or whether the crimes be capital or not-capital, and whether the said pleas be real, personal, or mixed; and for the awarding and issuing execution thereon. To which courts and judicatories are hereby given and granted full power and authority, from time to time to administer oaths or affirmations, for the better discovery of truth in any matter in controversy, or depending before them.

AND farther, full power and authority are hereby given and granted to the said general court, from time to time, to make, ordain and establish, all manner of wholesome and reasonable

orders, laws, statutes, ordinances, directions and instructions, either with penalties or without; so as the same be not repugnant, or contrary to this constitution, as they may judge for the benefit and welfare of this state, and for the governing and ordering thereof, and of the subjects of the same, for the necessary support and defence of the government thereof; and to name and settle annually, or provide by fixed laws, for the naming and settling all civil officers within this state; such officers excepted, the election and appointment of whom are hereafter in this form of government otherwise provided for; and to set forth the several duties, powers and limits of the several civil and military officers of this state, and the forms of such oaths or affirmations, as shall be respectively administered unto them for the execution of their several offices and places, so as the same be not repugnant or contrary to this constitution; and also to impose fines, mulcts, imprisonments, and other punishments; and to impose and levy proportional and reasonable assessments, rates and taxes, upon all the inhabitants of, and residents within the said state; and upon all estates within the same; to be issued and disposed of by warrant under the hand of the president of this state for the time being, with the advice and consent of the council, for the public service, in the necessary defence and support of the government of this state, and the protection and preservation of the subjects thereof, according to such acts as are, or shall be in force within the same.

AND while the public charges of government or any part thereof, shall be assessed on polls and estates in the manner that has heretofore been practised; in order that such assessments may be made with equality, there shall be a valuation of the estates within the state taken anew once in every five years at least, and as much oftener as the general court shall order.

SENATE.

THERE shall be annually elected by the freeholders and other inhabitants of this state, qualified as in this constitution is provided, twelve persons to be senators for the year ensuing their election; to be chosen in and by the inhabitants of the districts, into which this state may from time to time be divided by the general court, for that purpose: and the general court in assigning the number to be elected by the respective districts, shall govern themselves by the proportion of public taxes paid by the said districts; and timely make known to the inhabitants of the state, the limits of each district, and the number of senators to be elected therein; provided the number of such districts shall never be more than ten, nor less than five.

AND the several counties in this state, shall, until the gen

eral court shall order otherwise, be districts for the election of senators, and shall elect the following number, viz.

ROCKINGHAM, five. STRAFFORD, two. HILLSBOROUGH, two. CHESHIRE, two. GRAFTON, one.

THE senate shall be the first branch of the legislature: and the senators shall be chosen in the following manner, viz. Every male inhabitant of each town and parish with town privileges in the several counties in this state, of twenty-one years of age and upwards, paying for himself a poll tax, shall have a right at the annual or other meetings of the inhabitants of said towns and parishes, to be duly warned and holden annually forever in the month of March; to vote in the town or parish wherein he dwells, for the senators in the county or district whereof he is a member.

AND every person qualified as the constitution provides, shall be considered an inhabitant for the purpose of electing and being elected into any office or place within this state, in that town, parish and plantation where he dwelleth and hath his home.

THE selectmen of the several towns and parishes aforesaid, shall, during the choice of senators, preside at such meetings impartially, and shall receive the votes of all the inhabitants of such towns and parishes present and qualified to vote for senators, and shall sort and count the same in the meeting, and in presence of the town clerk, who shall make a fair record in presence of the selectmen, and in open meeting, of the name of every person voted for, and the number of votes against his name; and a fair copy of this record shall be attested by the selectmen and town-clerk, and shall be sealed up and directed to the secretary of the state, with a superscription expressing the purport thereof, and delivered by said clerk to the sheriff of the county in which such town or parish lies, thirty days at least, before the first Wednesday of June; and the sheriff of each county, or his deputy, shall deliver all such certificates by him received, into the secretary's office, seventeen days at least, before the first Wednesday of June.

AND the inhabitants of plantations and places unincorporated, qualified as this constitution provides, who are or shall be required to assess taxes upon themselves towards the support of government, or shall be taxed therefor, shall have the same privilege of voting for senators in the plantations and places wherein they reside, as the inhabitants of the respective towns and parishes aforesaid have. And the meetings of such plantations and places for that purpose, shall be holden annually in the month of March, at such places respectively therein, as the assessors thereof shall direct; which assessors shall have like authority for notifying the electors, collecting and returning the

votes, as the selectmen and town-clerks have in their several towns by this constitution.

AND, that there may be a due meeting of senators, on the first Wednesday of June, annually, the president and three of the council for the time being, shall as soon as may, examine the returned copies of such records; and fourteen days before the said first Wednesday of June, he shall issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen senators by a majority of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day: *Provided, nevertheless*, that for the first year the said returned copies shall be examined by the president and five of the council of the former constitution of government; and the said president shall in like manner notify the persons elected, to attend and take their seats accordingly.

THE senate shall be final judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members. as pointed out in this constitution, and shall on the said first Wednesday of June annually, determine and declare, who are elected by each district to be senators by a majority of votes: and in case there shall not appear to be the full number returned elected by a majority of votes for any district, the deficiency shall be supplied in the following manner, viz. The members of the house of representatives and such senators as shall be declared elected, shall take the names of such persons as shall be found to have the highest number of votes in each district, and not elected, amounting to twice the number of senators wanting, if there be so many voted for; and out of these shall elect by joint ballot the number of senators wanted for such district: and in this manner all such vacancies shall be filled up in every district of the state, and in like manner all vacancies in the senate, arising by death, removal out of the state, or otherwise, shall be supplied as soon as may be after such vacancies happen.

Provided nevertheless, That no person shall be capable of being elected a senator, who is not of the protestant religion, and seized of a freehold estate in his own right of the value of *two hundred pounds*. lying within this state, who is not of the age of thirty years. and who shall not have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years immediately preceding his election; and at the time thereof he shall be an inhabitant of the district for which he shall be chosen.

THE senate shall have power to adjourn themselves, provided such adjournment do not exceed two days at a time.

THE senate shall appoint their own officers, and determine their own rules of proceedings. And not less than seven members of the senate shall make a quorum for doing business; and when less than eight senators shall be present, the assent of five at least shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

The senate shall be a court with full power and authority to hear and determine all impeachments made by the house of representatives, against any officer or officers of the state, for misconduct or mal-administration in their offices. But previous to the trial of any such impeachment, the members of the senate shall respectively be sworn, truly and impartially to try and determine the charge in question according to evidence. Their judgment, however, shall not extend farther than removal from office, disqualification to hold or enjoy any place of honor, trust or profit under this state; but the party so convicted, shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to laws of the land.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THERE shall be in the legislature of this state a representation of the people annually elected and founded upon principles of equality: and in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every town, parish, or place intitled to town privileges, having one hundred and fifty rateable male polls, of twenty-one years of age, and upwards, may elect one representative; if four hundred and fifty rateable polls, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding in that proportion, making three hundred such rateable polls the mean increasing number, for every additional representative.

Such towns, parishes or places as have less than one hundred and fifty rateable polls shall be classed by the general-assembly for the purpose of chusing a representative, and seasonably notified thereof. And in every class formed for the above-mentioned purpose, the first annual meeting shall be held in the town, parish, or place wherein most of the rateable polls reside; and afterwards in that which has the next highest number, and so on annually by rotation, through the several towns, parishes or places, forming the district.

WHENEVER any town, parish, or place intitled to town privileges as aforesaid, shall not have one hundred and fifty rateable polls, and be so situated as to render the classing thereof with any other town, parish, or place very inconvenient, the general-assembly may upon application of a majority of the voters in such town, parish, or place, issue a writ for their electing and sending a representative to the general-court.

THE members of the house of representatives shall be chosen annually in the month of March, and shall be the second branch of the legislature.

ALL persons qualified to vote in the election of senators shall be intitled to vote within the town, district, parish, or place where they dwell, in the choice of representatives. Every

member of the house of representatives shall be chosen by ballot; and for two years at least next preceding his election, shall have been an inhabitant of this state, shall have an estate within the town, parish, or place which he may be chosen to represent, of the value of *one hundred pounds*, one half of which to be a freehold, whereof he is seized in his own right; shall be at the time of his election, an inhabitant of the town, parish, or place he may be chosen to represent; shall be of the protestant religion, and shall cease to represent such town, parish, or place immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

THE travel of each representative to the general-assembly, and returning home, once in every session, and no more, shall be at the expence of the state, and the wages for his attendance, at the expence of the town, parish, or places he represents; such members attending seasonably, and not departing without licence. All intermediate vacancies in the house of representatives, may be filled up from time to time, in the same manner as annual elections are made.

THE house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of the state, and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the senate.

ALL money bills shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

THE house of representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves, but no longer then two days at a time.

A majority of the members of the house of representatives shall be a quorum for doing business: but when less than two thirds of the representatives elected shall be present, the assent of two thirds of those members shall be necessary to render their acts and proceedings valid.

No member of the house of representatives or senate, shall be arrested or held to bail on mean process, during his going to, returning from, or attendance upon the court.

THE house of representatives shall choose their own speaker, appoint their own officers, and settle the rules of proceedings in their own house. They shall have authority to punish by imprisonment, every person who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house in its presence, by any disorderly and contemptuous behaviour, or by threatening, or ill treating any of its members; or by obstructing its deliberations; every person guilty of a breach of its privileges in making arrests for debt, or by assaulting any member during his attendance at any session; in assaulting or disturbing any one of its officers in the execution of any order or procedure of the house, in assaulting any witness, or other person, ordered to attend by and dur-

ing his attendance of the house, or in rescuing any person arrested by order of the house, knowing them to be such. The senate, president and council, shall have the same powers in like cases; provided that no imprisonment by either, for any offence, exceed ten days.

THE journals of the proceedings of both houses of the general-court, shall be printed and published, immediately after every adjournment, or prorogation; and upon motion made by any one member, the yeas and nays upon any question, shall be taken and entered in the journals.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

PRESIDENT.

THERE shall be a supreme executive magistrate, who shall be stiled, THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE; and whose title shall be HIS EXCELLENCY.

THE PRESIDENT shall be chosen annually; and no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this state for seven years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of thirty years; and unless he shall, at the same time, have an estate of the value of *five hundred pounds*, one half of which shall consist of a freehold, in his own right, within the state; and unless he shall be of the protestant religion.

THOSE persons qualified to vote for senators and representatives, shall within the several towns, parishes or places, where they dwell, at a meeting to be called for that purpose, some day in the month of March annually, give in their votes for a president to the selectmen, who shall preside at such meeting, and the clerk in the presence and with the assistance of the selectmen, shall in open meeting sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person against his name, and shall make a fair record of the same in the town books, and a public declaration thereof in the said meeting; and shall in the presence of said inhabitants, seal up a copy of said list attested by him and the selectmen, and transmit the same to the sheriff of the county, thirty days at least before the first Wednesday of June, or shall cause returns of the same to be made to the office of the secretary of the state, seventeen days at least, before said day, who shall lay the same before the senate and house of representatives on the first Wednesday of June, to be by them examined: and in case of an election by a majority of votes through the state, the choice shall be by them declared, and published; but if no person shall have a majority of votes, the house of representa-

tives shall by ballot elect two out of the four persons who had the highest number of votes, if so many shall have been voted for; but if otherwise, out of the number voted for; and make return to the senate of the two persons so elected, on which the senate shall proceed by ballot to elect one of them who shall be declared president.

THE president of the state shall preside in the senate, shall have a vote equal with any other member; and shall also have a casting vote in case of a tie.

THE president with advice of council, shall have full power and authority in the recess of the general court, to prorogue the same from time to time, not exceeding ninety days in any one recess of said court; and during the session of said court, to adjourn or prorogue it to any time the two houses may desire, and to call it together sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned or prorogued, if the welfare of the state should require the same.

IN cases of disagreement between the two houses, with regard to the time of adjournment, or prorogation, the president, with advice of council, shall have a right to adjourn or prorogue the general court, not exceeding ninety days, at any one time, as he may determine the public good may require. And he shall dissolve the same seven days before the said first Wednesday of June. And in case of any infectious distemper prevailing in the place where the said court at any time is to convene, or any other cause whereby dangers may arise to the healths or lives of the members from their attendance, the president may direct the session to be holden at some other the most convenient place within the state.

THE president of this state for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the army and navy, and all the military forces of the state, by sea and land; and shall have full power by himself, or by any chief commander, or other officer, or officers, from time to time, to train, instruct, exercise and govern the militia and navy; and for the special defence and safety of this state to assemble in martial array, and put in warlike posture, the inhabitants thereof, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulse, repel, resist and pursue by force of arms, as well by sea as by land, within and without the limits of this state; and also to kill, slay, destroy, if necessary, and conquer by all fitting ways, enterprize and means, all and every such person and persons as shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprize the destruction, invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this state; and to use and exercise over the army and navy, and over the militia in actual service, the law-martial in time of war, invasion, and also in rebellion, declared by the legislature to exist, as occasion shall

necessarily require: and surprize by all ways and means whatsoever, all and every such person or persons, with their ships, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as shall in a hostile manner invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying this state: and in fine, the president hereby is entrusted with all other powers incident to the office of captain-general and commander in chief, and admiral, to be exercised agreeably to the rules and regulations of the constitution and the laws of the land: provided that the president shall not at any time hereafter, by virtue of any power by this constitution granted, or hereafter to be granted to him by the legislature, transport any of the inhabitants of this state, or oblige them to march out of the limits of the same, without their free and voluntary consent, or the consent of the general court, nor grant commissions for exercising the law-martial in any case, without the advice and consent of the council.

THE power of pardoning offences, except such as persons may be convicted of before the senate by impeachment of the house, shall be in the president by and with the advice of the council: but no charter of pardon granted by the president with advice of council, before conviction, shall avail the party pleading the same, notwithstanding any general or particular expressions contained therein, descriptive of the offence or offences intended to be pardoned.

ALL judicial officers, the attorney-general, solicitor-general, all sheriffs, coroners, registers of probate, and all officers of the navy, and general and field-officers of the militia, shall be nominated and appointed by the president and council; and every such nomination shall be made at least seven days prior to such appointment, and no appointment shall take place unless three of the council agree thereto. The captains and subalterns in the respective regiments shall be nominated and recommended by the field-officers to the president, who is to issue their commissions immediately on receipt of such recommendation.

No officer duly commissioned to command in the militia, shall be removed from his office, but by the address of both houses to the president, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws of the state for the time being.

THE commanding officers of the regiments shall appoint their adjutants and quarter-masters; the brigadiers their brigade-majors, the major-generals their aids; the captains and subalterns their non-commissioned officers.

THE president and council, shall appoint all officers of the continental army, whom by the confederation of the United States it is provided that this state shall appoint, as also all officers of forts and garrisons.

THE division of the militia into brigades, regiments and

companies, made in pursuance of the militia laws now in force, shall be considered as the proper division of the militia of this state, until the same shall be altered by some future law.

No monies shall be issued out of the treasury of this state, and disposed of (except such sums as may be appropriated for the redemption of bills of credit or treasurer's notes, or for the payment of interest arising thereon) but by warrant under the hand of the president for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of the council, for the necessary support and defence of this state, and for the necessary protection and preservation of the inhabitants thereof, agreeably to the acts and resolves of the general court.

ALL public boards, the commissary-general, all superintending officers of public magazines and stores, belonging to this state, and all commanding officers of forts and garrisons within the same, shall once in every three months, officially, and without requisition, and at other times, when required by the president, deliver to him an account of all goods, stores, provisions, ammunition, cannon, with their appendages, and small arms, with their accoutrements, and of all other public property under their care respectively; distinguishing the quantity, and kind of each, as particularly as may be; together with the condition of such forts and garrisons: and the commanding officer shall exhibit to the president, when required by him, true and exact plans of such forts, and of the land and sea, or harbour or harbours adjacent.

THE President and council shall be compensated for their services from time to time by such grants as the general court shall think reasonable.

PERMANENT and honorable salaries shall be established by law for the justices of the superior court.

WHENEVER the chair of the president shall be vacant, by reason of his death, absence from the state, or otherwise, the senior senator for the time being, shall, during such vacancy, have and exercise all the powers and authorities which by this constitution the president is vested with when personally present.

COUNCIL.

ANNUALLY, on the first meeting of the general court, two members of the senate and three from the house of representatives, shall be chosen by joint ballot of both houses as a council, for advising the president in the executive part of government, whom the president for the time being, shall have full power and authority to convene from time to time, at his discretion, and the president with the counsellors, or three of them at least, shall and may from time to time hold and keep

a council, for ordering and directing the affairs of the state according to the laws of the land.

THE qualifications for counsellors, shall be the same as those required for senators. The members of the council shall not intermeddle with the making or trying impeachments, but shall themselves be impeachable by the house, and triable by the senate for mal-conduct.

THE resolutions and advice of the council shall be recorded in a register, and signed by the members present, and this record may be called for at any time, by either house of the legislature, and any member of the council may enter his opinion contrary to the resolution of the majority.

AND whereas the elections appointed to be made by this constitution on the first Wednesday of June annually, by the two houses of the legislature may not be completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day until the same shall be completed. And the order of the elections shall be as follows: the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall be first filled up: the president shall then be elected, provided there should be no choice of him by the people: and afterwards the two houses, shall proceed to the election of the council.

SECRETARY, TREASURER, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, &C.

THE Secretary, treasurer, and commissary-general, shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives assembled in one room.

THE records of the state shall be kept in the office of the secretary, who may appoint his deputies, for whose conduct he shall be answerable, and he shall attend the president and council, the senate and representatives, in person or by deputy, as they may require.

COUNTY-TREASURER, &C.

THE County-treasurers, and registers of deeds shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several counties in the state, according to the method now practised, and the present laws of the state: and before they enter upon the business of their offices, shall be respectively sworn faithfully to discharge the duties thereof, and shall severally give bond with sufficient sureties, in a reasonable sum for the use of the county, for the punctual performance of their respective trusts.

JUDICIARY POWER.

THE tenure, that all commission officers shall have by law in their offices, shall be expressed in their respective commissions. All judicial officers, duly appointed, commissioned

and sworn, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, excepting those concerning whom there is a different provision made in this constitution: *Provided nevertheless*, the president, with consent of council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the legislature.

EACH branch of the legislature, as well as the president and council, shall have authority to require the opinions of the justices of the superior court upon important questions of law, and upon solemn occasions.

IN order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the peace, who shall fail in discharging the important duties of his office with ability and fidelity, all commissions of justices of the peace shall become void, at the expiration of five years from their respective dates; and upon the expiration of any commission, the same may, if necessary, be renewed, or another person appointed, as shall most conduce to the well-being of the state.

THE judges of probate of wills, and for granting letters of administration, shall hold their courts at such place or places, on such fixed days, as the convenience of the people may require. And the legislature shall, from time to time, hereafter appoint such times and places, until which appointments, the said courts shall be holden at the times and places which the respective judges shall direct.

ALL causes of marriage, divorce and alimony, and all appeals from the respective judges of probate, shall be heard and tried by the superior court, until the legislature shall, by law make other provision.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

THE clerks of the superior court of judicature, inferior court of common pleas, and general sessions of the peace, shall be appointed by the respective courts during pleasure. And to prevent any fraud or unfairness in the entries and records of said courts, no such clerk shall be of counsel in any cause in the court of which he is clerk, nor shall he fill any writ in any civil action whatsoever.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS.

THE delegates of this state to the Congress of the United States, shall some time between the first Wednesday of June, and the first Wednesday of September annually, be elected by the senate and house of representatives in their separate branches: to serve in Congress for one year, to commence on the first Monday in November then next ensuing. They shall have commissions under the hand of the president, and the great seal of the state; but may be recalled at any time within

the year, and others chosen and commissioned, in the same manner, in their stead; and they shall have the same qualifications, in all respects, as by this constitution are required for the president.

No person shall be capable of being a delegate to Congress, for more than three years in any term of six years; nor shall any person being a delegate, be capable of holding any office under the United States, for which he, or any other for his benefit, receives any salary, or emolument of any kind.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF LITERATURE, &C.

KNOWLEDGE, and learning. generally diffused through a community, being essential to the preservation of a free government; and spreading the opportunities and advantages of education through the various parts of the country, being highly conducive to promote this end; it shall be the duty of the legislators and the magistrates, in all future periods of this government to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions, rewards and immunities for the promotion of agriculture. arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures and natural history of the country; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and economy, honesty and punctuality, sincerity, sobriety, and all social affections. and generous sentiments, among the people.

OATH AND SUBSCRIPTIONS; EXCLUSION FROM OFFICES; COMMISSIONS; WRITS; CONFIRMATION OF LAWS; HABEAS CORPUS; THE ENACTING STYLE; CONTINUANCE OF OFFICERS; PROVISION FOR A FUTURE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION, &C.

Any person chosen president, counsellor, senator, or representative, military or civil officer, (town officers excepted,) accepting the trust, shall, before he proceeds to execute the duties of his office, make and subscribe the following declaration, viz.

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, that the state of New-Hampshire is, and of right ought to be, a free, sovereign and independent state; and do swear that I will bear faith, and true allegiance to the same, and that I will endeavor to defend it against all treacherous conspiracies and hostile attempts whatever: and I do further testify and declare, that no man or body of men, hath or can have, a right to absolve me from the obligation of this oath, declaration or affirmation; and that I do make this acknowledgement, profession, testimony,

and declaration, honestly and truly, according to the common acceptation of the foregoing words, without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation whatever.

So help me GOD.

I, A. B. do solemnly and sincerely swear and affirm, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as according to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this constitution, and the laws of the state of New-Hampshire.

So help me GOD.

Provided always, When any person chosen or appointed as aforesaid, shall be of the denomination called quakers, or shall be scrupulous of swearing, and shall decline taking the said oaths, such shall take and subscribe them omitting the word "swear," and likewise the words "So help me God," subjoined instead thereof, This I do under the pains and penalties of perjury.

AND the oaths or affirmations shall be taken and subscribed by the president before the senior senator present, in the presence of the two houses of assembly; and by the senate and representatives first elected under this constitution, before the president and council for the time being; and by the residue of the officers aforesaid, before such persons, and in such manner as from time to time shall be prescribed by the legislature.

ALL commissions shall be in the name of the state of New-Hampshire, signed by the president, and attested by the secretary, or his deputy, and shall have the great seal of the state affixed thereto.

ALL writs issuing out of the clerk's office in any of the courts of law, shall be in the name of the state of New-Hampshire; shall be under the seal of the court whence they issue, and bear test of the chief, first, or senior justice of the court; but when such justice shall be interested, then the writ shall bear test of some other justice of the court, to which the same shall be returnable; and be signed by the clerk of such court.

ALL indictments, presentments and informations shall conclude against the peace and dignity of the state.

THE estates of such persons as may destroy their own lives, shall not for that offence be forfeited, but descend or ascend in the same manner, as if such persons had died in the natural way. Nor shall any article which shall accidentally occasion the death of any person, be henceforth deemed a deodand, or in any wise forfeited on account of such misfortune.

ALL the laws which have heretofore been adopted, used and approved, in the province, colony, or state of New-Hampshire, and usually practised on in the courts of law, shall remain and

be in full force, until altered and repealed by the legislature; such parts thereof only excepted. as are repugnant to the rights and liberties contained in this constitution: Provided that nothing herein contained. when compared with the twenty-third article in the bill of rights, shall be construed to affect the laws already made respecting the persons or estates of absentees.

THE privilege and benefit of the habeas corpus, shall be enjoyed in this state, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious, and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a time not exceeding three months.

THE enacting stile in making and passing acts, statutes and laws, shall be—*Be it enacted by the Senate and house of representatives, in General Court convened.*

No president or judge of the superior court, shall hold any office or place under the authority of this state, except such as by this constitution they are admitted to hold, saving that the judges of the said court may hold the offices of justices of the peace throughout the state; nor shall they hold any place or office, or receive any pension or salary, from any other state, government, or power whatever.

No person shall be capable of exercising at the same time, more than one of the following offices within this state, viz. Judge of probate, sheriff, register of deeds; and never more than two offices of profit, which may be held by appointment of the president, or president and council, or senate and house of representatives, or superior or inferior courts; military offices, and offices of justices of the peace, excepted.

No person holding the office of judge of the superior court, secretary, treasurer of the state, judge of probate, attorney-general, commissary-general, judge of the maritime court, or judge of the court of admiralty, military officers receiving pay from the continent or this state, excepting officers of the militia occasionally called forth on an emergency; judge of the inferior court of common pleas, register of deeds, president, professor or instructor of any college, sheriff, or officer of the customs, including naval-officers, shall at the same time have a seat in the senate or house of representatives, or council: but their being chosen or appointed to, and accepting the same, shall operate as a resignation of their seat in the senate, or house of representatives, or council: and the place so vacated shall be filled up.

No person shall ever be admitted to hold a seat in the legislature, or any office of trust or importance under this government, who in the due course of law, has been convicted of bribery or corruption, in obtaining an election or appointment.

IN all cases where sums of money are mentioned in this con-

stitution, the value thereof shall be computed in silver, at *six shillings and eight pence* per ounce.

To the end that there may be no failure of justice or danger arise to this state from a change of the form of government, all civil and military officers, holding commissions under the government and people of New-Hampshire, and other officers of the said government and people, at the time this constitution shall take effect, shall hold, exercise and enjoy all the powers and authorities to them granted and committed, until other persons shall be appointed in their stead. All courts of law in the business of their respective departments, and the executive, and legislative bodies and persons, shall continue in full force, enjoyment and exercise of all their trusts and employments, until the general court, and the supreme and other executive officers under this constitution, are designated, and invested with their respective trusts, powers and authority.

This form of government shall be enrolled on parchment, and deposited in the secretary's office, and be a part of the laws of the land, and printed copies thereof shall be prefixed to the books containing the laws of this state, in all future editions thereof.

To preserve an effectual adherence to the principles of the constitution, and to correct any violations thereof, as well as to make such alterations therein, as from experience may be found necessary, the general court shall at the expiration of seven years from the time this constitution shall take effect, issue precepts, or direct them to be issued from the secretary's office, to the several towns and incorporated places, to elect delegates to meet in convention for the purposes aforesaid: the said delegates to be chosen in the same manner, and proportioned as the representatives to the general assembly; provided that no alteration shall be made in this constitution before the same shall be laid before the towns and unincorporated places, and approved by two thirds of the qualified voters present, and voting upon the question.

IN CONVENTION,

HELD AT CONCORD, THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER,

1783.

THE Returns from the several towns being examined, and it appearing that the foregoing BILL OF RIGHTS AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT, were approved by the PEOPLE: the same are hereby agreed on and established by the DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE, and declared to be the CIVIL CONSTITUTION FOR THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, to take place on the first Wed-

nesday of June, 1784; and that in the mean time the General Court under the present government, make all the necessary arrangements for introducing this Constitution, at that time, and in the manner therein described.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, President, P. T.

Attest.

J. M. SEWALL, Secretary.

INDEX OF NAMES.

Readers will please take notice, that in this Index, names which very frequently occur in the same town, are not always noted page by page, but designated by a - joining the pages on which they are found. Hence, when the residence of a particular name is once ascertained, it may be well to look for its repetition on every page of the town thereto related. It will be seen that the same name is often spelt in different ways. The names of Governors, Clerks, Secretaries, &c., which are officially signed, occurring more or less on every page, are not repeated. Errors will probably be found, but the Index has cost the Editor immense labor, to make it accurate.

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(1) By error, "Rickers."

(2) The name, as Governors, appears on almost every page. Ed.

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